THE CULTIVATOR.

THIRD — To Improve the Soil and the Mind. — SERIES.

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LUTHER TUCKER AND JOHN J. THOMAS, EDITORS.

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Twenty copies Cultivator and twenty copies Illustrated Annual Register, } $10.00.

AGENCY IN NEW-YORK.—C. M. SAXTON, *Agricultural Book Publisher*, No. 152 Fulton-street, New-York, is Agent for THE CULTIVATOR and THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN, and subscribers in that city who apply to him, can have their papers delivered regularly at their houses.

A Word More to our Subscribers.

With the present number, the current volume of THE CULTIVATOR is completed, making the second of the Third Series, and the twenty-first from its commencement. We furnish with it as usual a full and careful index to every subject treated, and it will, when bound, make a volume containing matter of a value to every farmer, far beyond the low price at which it is furnished, as well as a handsome addition to his bookshelves, or the table in his sitting room. But our present business is rather with the future than the past.

As the annual subscription to THE CULTIVATOR is too small to admit of our keeping accounts with individual subscribers, or paying the heavy expenses of travelling agents from New-Brunswick to California, we are compelled to continue our practice of discontinuing all subscriptions at the end of the year; and hence it is that we are obliged year after year to make an appeal to the

Agents and Friends of the Cultivator,

to renew their efforts to secure the continuance and enlargement of our subscription lists. The

Illustrated Annual Register,

which we have now ready for distribution, has been prepared at a considerable and unusual expense, as a

New-Year's Present to Club Subscribers,

and we will send a copy of it, as already offered, to any of our friends who propose to exert themselves to promote the circulation of the Cultivator, and who will let us hear from them to that effect. As an inducement to greater exertion on the part of all who are disposed to act as agents, we offer

$275 in Cash Premiums,

as stated last month, to those who send the largest amount of cash subscriptions to our Journals previous to the 10th of April next.

Why may not You, Reader,

obtain one of the TEN for yourself? The smallest would pay your subscription to this paper for TEN YEARS, and the largest count as no inconsiderable item in the year's receipts.

We shall enter another volume with increased editorial facilities, and a renewed determination to devote that experience which we have been so long in acquiring, and every means which we can at present or in the future secure, to impart to our pages

Additional Interest and Value.

And we desire here to acknowledge the indebtedness, both of ourselves and readers, to the labors of our associate, Mr. J. J. THOMAS, of Macedon. Though he has always, since our connection with THE CULTIVATOR, been a contributor in a greater or less degree to its pages, yet for the last year more of his time and care have been devoted to them; and we are neither flattering him, nor indulging in any personal vainty, when we say that his contributions to our columns have seldom been equaled, as lucid, thoughtful and really practical articles, in the whole range of our agricultural literature. We are happy to say he will continue to give most of his time to our Journals, and in doing this we shall not need to assure our readers of their continued interest and value.

Nor can we close without returning our thanks to CORRESPONDENTS, who have kept us so well supplied with the results of their

Experience and Observation,

from every part of the country. While other journals have sometimes suffered during the sum-

mer months, like the soil of the farmer, from a drouth of what is most essential to life and spirit in their productions, owing to the kindness and care of these correspondents, our streams have seldom waned in strength or numbers. We trust we shall continue to awaken that interest in the agricultural community, of which a general contribution of communications and inquiries is both the index and the result. A man is not willing to give his thoughts to the world through a medium which may excite doubts of their reliability or with whose prosperity and interest he feels no sympathy.

And in asking of our FRIENDS and AGENTS, and of POSTMASTERS generally, to put forth renewed exertions for our paper, we can not fail to acknowledge our especial obligations for their past kindness in this way,—for repeated efforts, frequently made without other reward than the consciousness of the benefit they have thus conferred upon their neighbors, and of the part they have taken in combatting prejudices against a truly

Progressive System of Farming.

All this has not been without its good effects, but there is much more that remains to be accomplished. We are not obliged, like the ancient monarch, to sigh for other worlds to conquer. There is yet before us a world of error and prejudice, strong enough and large enough to employ our best and most hearty efforts. Shall we leave the battle unfought, or relinquish ground already gained?

In view of these considerations it is, that we express the hope of sending THE CULTIVATOR for 1855, to a very largely

Increased Subscription List.

We can but think that *very few farmers*, to whom the ANNUAL REGISTER is shown, who are told that they will receive with the 144 pages and 120 engravings which it contains, THE CULTIVATOR for the year, containing much larger, and nearly three times as many pages, and illustrations of no less value and beauty, and then asked to subscribe, can find it in their hearts to refuse so small a sum as FIFTY CENTS. It certainly makes them the CHEAPEST works published. All we request or wish, is, that our friends will be good enough TO DO THE ASKING!

Premiums Offered.

1. To the one who shall send us the largest amount of cash subscriptions to the CULTIVATOR and the COUNTRY GENTLEMAN for 1855, with the pay in advance, at the rate of Fifty Cents for each copy of the former, and One Dollar and Fifty Cents—(the lowest club price, where ten or more copies are taken)—for each subscriber to the COUNTRY GENTLEMAN, previous to the 10th of April next, FIFTY DOLLARS in cash.

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The terms of the Country Gentleman are—

Single copy, strictly in advance,.....$2.00
" " not paid in advance,..... 2.50
Three copies, with the money accompanying the order, 5.00
Ten copies,.....do.....do.....15.00

In addition we will give for $4, TWO copies of the COUNTRY GENTLEMAN one year, and the ANNUAL REGISTER TO EACH.

THE CULTIVATOR.

For a single copy..... .....FIFTY CENTS.
For Twenty copies, and our new book, the REGISTER, to each, ...$10.00

The money in all cases to accompany the order, and subscriptions invariably to commence with the January number. Clubs need not necessarily take their papers from the same Post-office, but it is preferred, where not inconvenient, that they should go to one office, and if possible to one address.

After one club has been ordered, agents may continue to send subscribers on the same terms—i. e., Fifty Cents each, for both the CULTIVATOR and REGISTER. To prevent mistakes, it may be well to number the subscribers, as they are sent in, 1, 2, 3, &c.

Great care should be taken to write the names and address of each subscriber distinctly, thus:

"John Smith, Washington, Berkshire Co., Mass"

☞ Specimen Numbers and Prospectuses will be sent to all who desire them.

TO SUBSCRIBERS IN THE BRITISH PROVINCES.—We inadvertently omitted in our last number to call the attention of our subscribers in the British Provinces to the fact that we have to prepay the American postage on their papers. Hence we are obliged to require them to remit *invariably* 26 cents additional on each subscription to the COUNTRY GENTLEMAN, and 8 cents additional on each to THE CULTIVATOR. Hence our club terms to them for the latter will be—

20 copies, and the REGISTER to each, ... 11.60

And for the COUNTRY GENTLEMAN

3 copies,..... $5.75
10 copies,..... 17.50

CHINESE PIGS.—A correspondent wishes to know where he can procure a pair of pure Chinese pigs. Who can tell him?

Calamities Changed to Blessings.

Every intelligent and thrifty farmer has doubtless had occasion to observe the heavy losses of the *skinning system*. The man who gets twenty bushels of corn per acre off a ten acre lot, is compelled to plow the whole of this surface for 200 bushels; while he who obtains fifty bushels per acre has only four acres to cultivate for a like amount. And it usually happens that triple the labor is required to keep a single acre of the badly cultivated land clear of grass and weeds, as an acre in the finest tillage. If the ten-acre man barely gets enough to pay for cultivation, the four-acre man may realize a profit of about one hundred per cent. The same mode of estimate will apply to every thing else. If a poor cow yields milk and butter only enough to pay for her keeping, a good one yielding a double amount, affords a clear profit of all this surplus. Landpike and Racer hogs, may consume three dollars worth of corn to make a dollar's worth of pork; Berkshires and Suffolks may yield two dollars worth of pork to every dollar's worth of corn fed skillfully. All these examples show that the most profitable farming is that which brings land into the finest condition, and which secures the most productive animals on a given amount of food. The increased value of the *principal*—that is of the land itself, by the most improving practice, should also be taken into the account.

Yet notwithstanding all this, a great multitude of farmers continue to pursue the most profitless of the two modes,—either from a want of energy or a want of knowledge. They barely make a living in many instances, and remind us of the man who said, "It takes me and my hired man, both working hard all the year, to raise enough to pay my hired man." Now, when in addition to this close struggle for a living, such calamities as the Hessian fly, the wheat midge, extraordinary drouths, &c., make their appearance, the case appears to be desperate; and yet we are not sure that the fly and midge, and the danger of drouth, may not become indirectly great improvers of our husbandry, and in this way prove substantial blessings to superficial farmers. "It's an ill wind dat blows no whar," said Shelby's black Sam; and possibly these calamities may yet compel some to be good farmers against their will.

In the eastern part of Long Island, the Hessian fly proved many years ago a great benefit to that region of country. The land was so constantly tilled, and so little attention was given to making manures, and to other modes of enriching, that on an average not more than five or six bushels of wheat were raised per acre. But this, small as it was, would pay the labor and expense. The Hessian fly put an end to this kind of husbandry, for no other way was found to prevent its depredations but highly manuring the land; the fly usually attacking the weakest plants, the vigor imparted by the manure saved the crop. Great attention was subsequently given to the manufacture of manure, and in many places the amount made was increased ten fold. The cackling of geese once saved the city of Rome; and in this instance, the buzzing of a minute insect placed thousands of dollars in the pockets of farmers.

We are much mistaken if the wheat midge or weevil does not do us some substantial good. Crops of wheat, which have been put in early, and in the best manner, in land not injured by previous mismanagement, have been but slightly affected. An energetic farmer of our acquaintance prepared his land last year, by first turning over *deeply* a good clover sod—then giving this a good coat of compost manure—then harrowing the inverted sod and compost into complete intermixture and pulverization—then turning the whole under with a gang-plow just deep enough for the roots of the young wheat, which was put in with a drill in the best manner. The whole of this was accomplished by the first day of autumn. Other crops on the same farm, after corn, were also well put in, but necessarily some weeks later, and in less favorable soil. Now mark the result. The first-named crop yielded the present season of drouth and insects, no less than thirty bushels of the finest wheat per acre—the other was only ten bushels per acre. Other crops in the same neighborhood, sown after corn with only ordinary care and tillage, produced but five bushels per acre. In one instance, when two fields were sown side by side, on similar land, at the same time, but with one of them thoroughly tilled with an especial view to the destruction of "June grass," the latter yielded nineteen bushels per acre, the former only ten. Examples may be multiplied to any degree, showing the great profits of the best modes of tillage for security against these depredators.

The present year of extraordinary drouth has furnished some interesting lessons on the difference between the effects of good and bad management. The potato crop, for example, has varied five hundred per cent with the treatment it has met with. When it has been planted *early*, in a soil, not made rich hastily with fresh, badly mixed manure, but by previous high tillage, with an addition of well pulverized compost, we have succeeded in raising large and fine roots. Late planted, and on poor soil, the crop has in many instances been insufficient to pay the digging. The Irishman who dug our crop, said he was quite as well rewarded for his labor by taking *one* bushel in *ten*, as in taking the *whole* of his own scanty product. The *oat* crop is another which has exhibited in a striking light, the advantages of being *up to the time*. Crops which were sown closely after the disappearance of frost, have afforded a fair return; while some which we have had occasion to notice that were put in but two or three weeks later, reminded us of such as were fit only to cut with scissors and rake with a pocket-comb—they could not, in fact, be craddled.

But we need not multiply instances. If the essential requisites of good tillage are attended to, such as heavy clover sod, muck and sod compost, and early sowing for *wheat;* high manuring, thorough intermixture, and clean tillage for *corn;* fertility, sufficient depth, and early planting for *potatoes;* and thorough underdraining, subsoiling or trench plowing, to prevent wetness at one time, and loss from drouth at another, with such other requisites as good management always points out; if these all should have place in the practice of our farmers, we should hear much less complaint of the ravages of depredators and the calamities of seasons.

Does Manuring always Pay?

This is a question which seems to be agitated by a great many of our agricultural brethren, with whom we have lately conversed. Perhaps the reduction which the agents of the Peruvian Government in this country have quite recently made in the price of guano, may have given *fresh* importance to this question, and made it assume of late a more prominent place in conversation. Previous to this late reduction in price, or when it was above $50 per ton, the impression seemed to be very general among farmers that they could not afford to buy, or, in other words, that manuring with *that* would *not* pay. A similar impression prevails, we should judge from their conversation, in the minds of many in regard to all marketable manures. They do not purchase—they do not try, for they have got the persuasion pretty firmly fixed in their minds that using these advertised fertilizers will not pay, that is, that their crops will not be increased thereby in sufficient quantity to remunerate them for their outlaid money. A similar impression seems to be very common in regard to home-made manures which require some considerable time or labor in their production. Many seem to have doubts about their ever getting remunerated for their time and pains in getting up some kind of protection to their manure-heaps against exposure to sun and rains, or in throwing up a compost heap; and many more are incredulous about ever getting paid were they to go to work and manufacture their own poudrette, or save the urine on their premises, converting it into a dry manure by having it absorbed by muck or other material. Few seem to think that it would pay to be at the little labor necessary to save the manure of their hen-roosts or poultry-yards, which is just about as valuable as guano from abroad. Whole neighborhoods, perhaps whole towns, may be heard of, in which no other manure seems ever to have been used save that which is to be found at stable-doors or in cattle-yards, after it has been well leached by rains, and had all the valuable gases and fertilizing matter extracted and exhaled from it by exposure to the rays of a burning sun.

These fears, doubts and incredulities, about manures and manuring not paying, are the products, we fear, more of laziness and want of enterprise than of well-authenticated facts, and of just inferences therefrom. They seem to us to be baseless—without any foundation in fact or reason. And not only so, but like a great many other errors and mis-judgments, they are the sources of a great deal of loss and mischief. Were these doubts and erroneous impressions removed, there might be an addition to the crops of the whole country, of ten or even twenty per cent. If this estimate is not exaggerated, then these erroneous impressions cause to individuals and to the community generally *an immense loss*. To remove them is, therefore, an object of no small importance. The products of the soil and of the farm generally, would thereby be much increased. The wants of society would be more abundantly supplied, and comforts be more easily procurable. Let these errors, then, be attacked wherever they exist. Let the facts and the truths to which they are opposed be well established and brought out so as to secure attention and candid consideration.

As a small contribution towards this important object, we would at present, lay before the reader a few facts which seem to warrant us in expecting that *manuring will always pay*, when good judgment presides over the whole operation;—and that farmers would be much nearer the truth at all events, in expecting that manuring will always, or nearly always, pay, than in indulging such fears and foolish notions as those to which we have alluded at the commencement of this article.

The almost universal opinion among our best and most enterprising farmers, that guano will cause an increase of products which will not only pay cost, at $50 per ton or $2.50 per 100 lbs. as it has lately been sold at, and for the time and labor in applying it, but will also furnish a considerable net profit besides—this general opinion among those who have tried it, both in Great Britain and America, may be fairly adduced as very good proof that manuring *will* pay, even when the article used costs a high price, and is often adulterated or deteriorated in quality. We have known and read of instances in which guano was used injudiciously, and therefore without any remunerating increase of crop, but the general result has been such as to compensate abundantly for the outlay of money, time and labor in applying it. The benefits of guano are now so well established and so generally known, that the demand is almost incredible. But for the statement made by Dr. JAMES HIGGINS, the chemist of the Maryland Agricultural Society, who lives near the great importers of guano, Barreda & Bro., we should have been slow to believe that the demand in the United States has ever amounted to 200,000 tons, in one year. Dr. Higgins, in a letter to the *Washington Union*, says however, that he has learned from a most reliable source, that the quantity of guano which will be brought to the United States this year will be about the quantity above named. The recent reduction which these importers have made in the price will probably increase the demand of next year to 250,000 tons. This at their lowest price, $50 per ton, will amount to $12,500,000. If the agricultural products of the country can be increased to such an extent by guano as to make a remunerating return for an outlay of ten or twelve and a half millions of dollars, surely it would pay to be at more expense than we now are to save the fertilizing elements of crops which now so generally go to waste, both in cities and villages, and also about individual homesteads, stables and barnyards.

As it is principally in regard to manures *made on the farm*, that we wish to persuade our brethren that it *will pay*, to make and use them, we will now give an instance of the fertilizing effects of a home-made manure. A farmer in Piermont, N. H., was led by some remarks in the Patent Office Report for 1851, pp. 380, 381, to make some experiments with a fertilizer

composed of urine, plaster and ashes. The composition was made by saturating with urine 325 lbs. of ground plaster, 3¼ bushels of house ashes and about four bushels of common sand, and this he calls Urate. When sufficiently dry, this was sown broadcast over half an acre of land intended for corn, and thoroughly harrowed in. About a spoonful was also put into each hill at the time of planting. The crop of corn was not great owing to poverty of soil, &c., but it was as good as was anticipated, and the corn throughout the whole season exhibited a luxuriant green and apparent healthiness, uncommon for so small a growth. He thinks it would be of greater utility on more fertile soils.

The effect of applying this *urate* on a potato crop was more gratifying. One part of the potato patch was manured with about half a shovelful of good manure to each hill, and on another part the urate was used at the rate of about a heaped table-spoonful to each hill. The yield of that part treated with urate exceeded that of the manured land by several pounds in a row of 75 or 80 hills. Some rows of fifty-four hills were planted without any manure, and these fell short by 62 lbs. of the quantity yielded by rows of the same length treated with urate. In other words, the urate *more than doubled* the crop.

If any reader should wish to pursue a farther investigation of the question, 'Will manuring pay,' we would refer him to several articles in *Country Gent. and Cult.* for 1853, and particularly to the accurate experiments of Dr. Keene, C. G. II., 321, and Cult. 202, and to 'Interesting Experiments with Manures' by H. H. Eastman.

The Great Hay Crop.

[We yield to the request of the writer of the following communication in reference to that 'almost incredible' hay crop, which has been noticed in our issues of Sept. 14th and 21st. In a letter accompanying his communication the writer of it says—"I believe that nothing conduces more to stimulate the enterprise and industry of individual members of the farming community than the persuasion that greater things have been accomplished by others than they themselves have as yet been able to bring to pass. I believe it would be a great stimulus to enterprise, if some of the more ambitious or successful of the agricultural brotherhood could accomplish results far beyond anything as yet realized--something that would startle and astonish and make the rank and file cry out "Ridiculous," "Humbug," "Impossible." After a while the wonderful result would become a fixed fact, and then there would be a prevailing opinion, among those who had hitherto been contented with old ways and ordinary products, that *verily* there are possibilities of improvement and attainment far beyond what they had ever dreamed of. It is on account of such considerations,—on account of the stimulus which would result to urge farmers on to improvements and enterprises yet unattempted by them, that I would most respectfully but *urgently* entreat you to lay before your readers all that is authentic and reliable in regard to this 'great hay crop.' Your unwillingness to countenance belief in it, I can readily understand and sympathize with; but surely, while it is not absolutely impossible, and since there is so much to make it plausible, you would not shut your columns to any article which would explain or render less marvelous a startling statement. Please favor us with something on Irrigation of meadows in Lombardy."]

Messrs. Editors—The surprising crop of hay which was reported in your paper of Sept. 14th, and of which you stated in your next week's issue that you did not wish to be considered as countenancing any belief, has proved a stumbling block to many, both in this country and in G. Britain. The gentleman who first gave this statement to the public has recently communicated to the London Times some remarks in explanation and confirmation of this almost incred ble hay crop. The substance of these remarks which we now propose, with your permission, to lay before your readers, may serve to present the matter in such an aspect as may render the original statement a great deal less incredible than at first sight it appears, and may also furnish to the enterprising portion of your readers some hints which may serve to increase their crops both of hay and other produce by the adoption of some modification of the means employed in the case of the great hay crop, at present under notice.

Mr. James Caird who first announced to the public the fact that twenty tons of hay, or grass which would have made as much as that in dry hay, says that at the late agricultural meeting at Tiptree, the farm of Mr. Mechi, the latter gentleman directed the attention of his visitors principally to his liquid manure system, which was in fact the most interesting feature of Mr. M.'s farm this season. His Italian rye grass was the only unsuccessful crop; but he referred to the experience of others with whom it had been more successful. He told his audience of the marvellous results obtained by Mr. Kennedy, in Ayrshire, whose Italian rye-grass affords keeping at the rate of 70 house-fed sheep to an acre. Mr. Telfer, of Ayr, who was present, confirmed this statement from his own experience, he having got from three cuttings of this prolific grass in one season, as much green food as would have made twenty tons of hay per acre. It was no wonder that many were startled by such statements, seeing that this is *ten* times the number of sheep and *ten* times the quantity of hay usually fed on, and got from an acre. Men cried "Impossible;" they *could* not believe it. It would be impossible without a great amount of moisture. And there is the difference of 10 inches in the rainfall of the east and west of Great Britain in favor of the west, on which side this great crop was produced. An inch of rain is equivalent to 100 tons of water to an acre; so that on an average, nature gives to the western farmer 1,000 tons more of water per acre than to his eastern competitor. In the growth of grass it is all needed. In addition, Messrs. Kennedy and Telfer, who grew the large crops in question, apply *liquid* manure early in the mornings, and late in the

evenings. The mechanical labor, even when aided by machinery, of applying 1,000 tons of water to an acre of land, must ever present a serious obstacle to the farmer of the eastern districts; and even should he do this he would then be only on the level whence the western farmer starts.

Mr. Caird then proceeds to some details which tend to make such large crops of grass or hay less incredible. A good crop of meadow hay, it is well known, weighs about two tons. Now a stalk of Italian rye-grass is twice the length of one of meadow-grass. If the stalks stand equally thick on the ground, the Italian rye-grass will thus weigh twice as much as the meadow-grass. But if there are two stalks of Italian rye-grass for one of meadow-grass the crop of the former will be four times the weight of the latter. Those who have seen the crops of the gentleman referred to need not to be assured that both of these conditions are fulfilled; and, as Mr. C. says, it needs but the repeated application of liquid manure to this rapidly growing grass, in a favorable climate, to secure three such cuttings in the season as Mr. Telfer affirmed he had got. Many farmers, because they have never seen it themselves, would deny many of the great things accomplished by their more enterprising and pains-taking agricultural brethren, and would say, before it became established and notorious, that it is "impossible" on any land to grow superb crops year after year without manure—to have beans, wheat, mangold, potato, cabbages, oats and swedes following each other in any succession (provided the land is kept clean,) each crop most luxuriant, all carried off the ground, and not a particle of manure applied. And yet, says Mr. C., this may be seen in half an hour's ride from London by the North Kent Railway, on the drained portion of a large marsh. When guano was first introduced, many deemed it "*impossible*" that a brown powder brought thousands of miles across the ocean, would prove a hundred times more valuable for the growth of crops than an equal weight of good farmyard manure. Mr. Caird concludes his remarks by observing that "one of the most serious obstacles to agricultural improvement is to be found in the limited standard which some agricultural teachers have set up as the *fixed* boundary of agricultural progress." There is no presumption so great he says, as that which glibly cries "impossible," in an age which has produced the electric telegraph.

If these considerations be duly weighed, together with some well established facts in regard to the results of irrigation in Lombardy and elsewhere, we think the incredibility of 'the great hay crop' will be considerably diminished. Obs.

Damp Houses.

Messrs. Editors—There is an almost universal complaint in the spring of the year, by persons occupying brick and stone houses, that their houses sweat so abundantly as to cause great injury and inconvenience. A true knowledge of the *cause* and the nature of the evil, however, will enable us to remedy the evil. The universal impression is, that the damp and moisture which have been accumulating in the walls, flow out upon their surface on the first mild days of spring. This view, however, is erroneous, and leads to false conclusions as to the healthiness or unhealthiness of certain houses. The truth is that the walls, during the winter months, have become frozen, or in other words have accumulated a large amount of cold; on the first genial days of spring, the warm air, laden with an additional quantity of moisture, (for the capacity of the air for moisture increases according to its temperature,) comes in contact with the cold walls and deposits a portion of its moisture upon the walls. The cold walls diminish the temperature of the warm and heavily-laden atmosphere which comes in contact with them, thus rendering it incapable of holding in solution its previous volume of water, which consequently is deposited upon the walls.

To prove and illustrate this position, I need only to refer to an occurrence with which all are acquainted. Fill with *cold* water a glass or silver or other pitcher, incapable of the transmission of water, and place it in a room on a warm day, and you will instantly see the outer surface covered with drops and streams of water. Here the water cools the vessel, and the vessel lowers the temperature of the air brought in contact with it, necessarily causing a deposition of the surplus moisture. In the case of both the walls and the vessel, this operation goes on with like results until these materials attain the same temperature as the circumjacent atmosphere.

How then shall we remedy the difficulty? Simply by keeping our houses closed during this period as much as possible; thus preventing the admission of the external air, overburthened with moisture, until the walls have become warmed by more genial atmosphere, to the same temperature as the air itself. In proof of this position, you have but to examine any room or cupboard or closet, into which the external air has not been admitted during one of these *giving* periods of spring. We seldom have more than one of these periods of sweating in the year, unless a hard freezing supervenes to cause a subsequent accumulation of frost in the walls. By this simple remedy may your paper be kept uninjured and adhesive to the walls—the furniture from undue expansion, and paint and varnish from injury.

From this view of the case, you will of course perceive that the amount of moisture settling on the walls, is no index of the dampness of the house, and consequently of its unhealthiness. From this misconception, brick and stone houses have been condemned as being too wet; but with a knowledge of the true source or cause of moisture upon the walls, during the first few warm spring days, I cannot, after long experience, discover that they are any colder or damper than other material. In order however to render the temperature of my house as equal as possible, and to cut off the access of any moisture from rain or other causes from the outside, I have built a house with hollow walls, thus interposing a space of four inches of atmospheric

air between the interior and exterior walls, the air being a complete non-conductor of heat or moisture. This interposed air should be entirely isolated. In addition however, it is good economy, on the score of preservation of the materials as well as of health, to paint the house on the exterior, giving it a waterproof coat, and to extend the roof some two or three feet beyond the side and end walls in order to intercept the rain which would otherwise be blown into the walls. G. E. H.

Brownsville, Pa.

Cattle Show at Northampton.

Mr. Tucker—The annual Cattle Show and Fair of the Hampshire, Hampden and Franklin Society, was held in Northampton on Wednesday and Thursday of last week. It gave evidence of increased interest in all that relates to the well-being of the Agricultural community. The show of cattle was larger and finer than usual, and the same may be said of the exhibition in other departments. Among the bulls we noticed the splendid animal owned by Paoli Lathrop, Esq., the President of the Society. This bull whose name is Kirkleavington, we understand is descended from some of the late Mr. Bates' choicest Duchess stock, and appears to be worthy of his parentage. A fine bull of the Hereford breed attracted much attention. Judging from some specimens of working oxen and other stock of the same breed, we should think them well worthy the attention of breeders in Massachusetts and the other New England states. They are large and fine, and one would suppose from their general similarity might be more easily matched than some other breeds for working oxen.

The first day of the show was devoted to the exhibition of cattle, the drawing match and the plowing match. The second was occupied with the show of horses, the address before the Society and the dinner. The horses were out in good number and quality. Mr. Sumner of Heathe, exhibited a fine Morgan stallion. He is a well proportioned animal, and is remarkable for great strength and ease of movement. His sire was the Old Green Mountain Morgan, so we understand. Mr. Johnson of your city was expected to deliver the address, but was detained by illness at New-Haven. He however arrived before the dinner hour had expired, and entertained the numerous company of ladies and gentlemen at the tables for a half hour or more, with a most interesting account of some of his doings at the World's Fair in London, interspersed with many anecdotes illustrating the ignorance and prejudice of some of the English people and the fairness and generosity of others.

In the absence of Mr. Johnson, Prof. Nash of Amherst, occupied the hour in giving to the farmers some of the results of his observations made during his late tour in Europe. His subject was British Agriculture what in it is to be avoided and what practiced. Like most of his productions the address was marked by good judgment and sound common sense, while the manner of presenting his subject was clear and discriminating.

In the department of mechanics the most interesting contribution was made by Fisk Russell of Boston, who exhibited his Mowing Machine. The executive committee were so much interested in it that they proposed to Mr. Russell to make trial of it with Ketchum's Mower. He consented, and the next day the trial was made in the presence of a numerous company. He was completely successful. His one horse machine with a cutting blade of three feet, worked apparently quite as easy as Ketchum's two horse one with a cutting blade of about four and a half feet. It cuts closer, and is more simple in construction than Ketchum's. It will start in grass without first giving motion to the knives, and running upon two wheels it can be easily transported without loading into a wagon. Farmers in this vicinity are beginning to try mowing by horse power, but are almost discouraged by the fact that breakages are so common with them. Hitherto it has too often been the case that if a man goes out mowing with a machine in the morning, it is matter of dread uncertainty with him whether he mows one acre or five before noon. This is all wrong, and unless manufacturers contrive to lessen the strain on the crank machines, or make them of much better material, they will sell but few in this vicinity.

The importance of giving a better education to farmers as a class, is becoming quite a common topic in the addresses delivered at our annual Fairs, and I think the good effects of these alone can hardly be over estimated. The truth is that hitherto as a class, they have had no rallying point. They have almost nothing of that *esprit de corps* which belongs to other professions, and as this business naturally confines them for the most of the time within the bounds of the farm, they miss most of those opportunities of improvement which are possessed by those who live in cities or thickly settled towns. They have seldom an opportunity of hearing themselves addressed as a distinct body, and their duties clearly pointed out. Our agricultural papers do this to some extent, but they lack the unction of the living voice, and besides they reach but few of the mass of the farmers. Hence the value of fairs which call the farmers together, not only to exhibit the fruits of their labor and skill, but also to listen to counsels, warning and reproof. If only heeded, they cannot fail, in course of a few years, to elevate the standard of the profession, and make it more nearly what it ought to be. It is indeed strange enough, that while three years at least of special preparation are required of the student of theology, medicine or law, before he can *begin* to work, a common school education, and that often a very ordinary one, is thought amply sufficient for him who is to be but a farmer. Rev. Mr. Clift, of Stonnington, Ct., who delivered the address before the Hampshire Co. Society a few days since, spoke very forcibly on the subject of Scientific Agriculture. He looks to this as the grand means of renovation in some of our old townships, now in an

evidently decaying state, through the loss of some of its most enterprising sons and daughters who seek in other pursuits for that position in society to which they feel themselves entitled, but which they despair of obtaining on the old homestead. He argued that if each of these towns contained but two or three farmers of the right stamp—men who honored their calling, and were an honor to it—the aspect of things would very soon be changed, and thrift and enterprize would take the place of stagnation and decay. In furtherance of this subject, he recommended the Ag. Societies to offer as a premium for success in certain departments of husbandry, the privilege of free attendance at a course of agricultural lectures at some one of the institutions now open for that purpose. I thought the suggestion a good one, and worthy of particular consideration.

I fear I am exceeding reasonable limits, but cannot close without expressing the hope that you will continue to make the *Country Gentleman* what I have heard it declared to be on pretty good authority—the best agricultural paper in the Uuion. E. N. N.

The Peculiar Property of Wheat.

The peculiar property of wheat which distinguishes it from all other cereals, is the large proportion of gluten which it contains, the predominance of which renders it so much better adapted to the human constitution, as food, than any other vegetable production. The late Sir Humphrey Davy speaks of gluten as one of the most nutritious of all vegetable substances; and, in fact, wheaten flour is more or less valuable to the baker, the housekeeper, and the consumer, just in proportion to the quantity of gluten it contains, which varies considerably in different kinds and qualities of wheat. This difference is produced by the various conditions of soil, climate, and manure; and it is a question of no small importance, both to producer and consumer, what proportions and modifications of these elements are most favorable to the production of gluten in the largest proportions.

The influence of climate may be first noticed, as being, probably, as great as that of either soil or manure. Wheat may be cultivated in the northern hemisphere from the equator to the verge of the arctic circle. Within this range, the zone lying between the 30th and 60th degrees of latitude, produces the most mellow and easily-manufactured wheat. Southward of this belt, the grain becomes large, ricey, thin-skinned and dry; whilst northward, the berry gradually grows smaller, and the bran or skin thicker, rendering it of inferior value in commerce. Bakers, who find that that flour spends the farthest which contains most gluten, give the preference to Spanish, Egyptian and African wheats; but owing to the color being yellowish they have to mix it with English and American in small proportions. The proportion of gluten in wheat from different parts of the United States seems to be about 23 to 24, the amount of starch, sugar, gum and water being 76 to 77.

To determine the influence of different kinds of manures on the production of gluten, some experiment were made, the result of which is given by Boussingault. The manures were applied to the same soil and the same seed, and the results were as follows, showing a range of from 12 to 35 per cent:—

	Gluten.	Starch.	Bran and soluble matter.
1. Human urine,.....	35.1	39.3	25.6
2. Bullock's blood,.....	34.2	41.3	25.5
3. Night soil,.....	33.1	41.4	25.5
4. Sheep's dung,.....	32.9	42.8	24.3
5. Goat's do.	32.9	42.4	24.7
6. Horse's do.	13.7	61.6	24.7
7. Pigeon's do.	12.2	63.2	24.6
8. Cow's do	12.0	62.3	25.7
9. No manure,.....	9.2	66.7	24.1

From these experiments it appears that some wheats must be much more useful than others to the baker and the consumer of bread; whilst other kinds raised with different manures, must be much more useful to the manufacturer of stareh. The battle, it would appear, was between the gluten and the starch, there being little more than one per cent. difference in the other components. But, whilst one kind of manure produced gluten and starch in nearly equal quantities, 35.1 and 39.3, the amount of starch is about five times greater than that of gluten with some other manures, and when no manure was used the proportion of starch was more than seven times that of gluten, or 9.2 of gluten to 66.7 of starch.

Stowell Evergreen Corn.

This corn is I think, the most profitable of any other variety that is grown in the northern or middle states, for fodder, when cut green. I found it an excellent fodder in September, when pasture was pretty much burnt up with the hot sun. It will turn out a third more fodder to an acre than any other kind on account of the large number of leaves that it produces.

I prepare my ground as follows: Take a lot that has lain to grass three years—plow late in the fall—say first or middle of November. In the spring apply 30 loads of barn-yard manure to the acre; then cross-plow and harrow it thoroughly. Then furrow out 2½ ft. apart. Sow 3 bushels to the acre. As soon as it is up, apply plaster and ashes; then plow and hoe it nicely. In a couple of weeks, go through again with the plow.

I find that the corn makes excellent feed for hogs, when fed before it gets hard and dry. A. D.

FENCE POSTS.—The *Hereford Times* mentions a farmer who took up a fence after it had been standing fourteen years, and found some of the posts nearly sound, and others rotted off at the bottom. Looking for the cause, he discovered that the posts which had been inverted from the way they grew were solid, and those which had been set as they grew were rotted off. This is certainly an incident worthy of being noted by our farmers.—*Mark Lane Express.*

SHEEP AND PIGS FOR THE SOUTH.—S. W. JEWETT, Esq., of Middlebury, Vt., has recently shipped a splendid French Merino ram, to J. W. WATTS, Esq., of Cartersville, Georgia, and a pair of his Portugese or "Webster" pigs, to J. V. JONES, Esq., of Birdsville in the same state.

On the Practical Value of the Analyses of Plants.

S. W. JOHNSON.

In a former paper* I have endeavored to discuss impartially the value of soil-analyses. This question was considered in reference to the assumed principle, that as the qualitative (ash) analysis of a plant furnishes directly a correct notion of what must exist in the soil in order to grow the plant,—*so the quantitative analysis of a plant is a guide in adding the needful substances in proper quantity and proportion.* I now propose to lay before your readers certain statements which seem to prove that the principle in italics is itself incorrect, and that the analyses of plants *as hitherto interpreted*, to American farmers, are of little practical value, and indeed have been made the basis of false doctrine. In making and sustaining this assertion, nothing is said derogatory to science or to its genuine cultivators. What is incorrect does not belong to science, although that which is only partially true, must often be provisionally accepted by scientific men, until they can discover and reject its errors.

Nothing was more natural than to conclude from the analysis of the ashes of a plant, that silica, phosphoric acid, and the other constantly present mineral ingredients, must occur in the soil which is destined to nourish that plant. This conclusion has been so fully and decidedly confirmed, that it must be accepted as a "fixed fact." A closely related deduction was drawn from comparing the analyses of different crops. It was said that the grains contain much phosphoric acid, root-crops much potash and soda, grasses much lime and silica. It was therefore inferred that these crops need especially, to their luxurious growth, that the substances respectively mentioned, be largely present in the soil. At first a great error was committed by comparing the analyses of single parts of one plant, with the whole of another, instead of bringing the complete plant into account in all instances. Thus in case of wheat, only the ripe grain—in that of grass, the whole of the plant except the root,—while with the turnip only the root was brought into the comparison. It is perfectly obvious that the root, stalk and leaves of wheat must attain a normal development before the grain can be formed, and unless the leaves of the turnip manifest by size and color a healthy condition, it cannot be expected that the root will grow. The plant is in an agricultural sense, an individual, all of whose parts are necessary to each other and to the whole; consequently, considerations deduced from a study of a part must have a doubtful value. At first, too, analyses were directly compared as they came from the chemist's note book, expressed in per cents. In wheat, for example, was found 50 per cent. phosphoric acid, and 20 potash—in turnips, 7 per cent. of the former, and 45 of the latter. This seemed to leave no doubt that phosphates were of the greatest importance to the wheat crop, while potash must be an indispensable application to turnips. When, however, we calculate the phosphoric acid removed from an acre, we find that more is contained in 25 tons of turnips, than in 25 bushels of wheat. It then became fashionable to analyze the plant more completely, and to calculate how much it would remove from the soil, and recipes were given to replace the missing quantities. The illustrious LIEBIG went so far as to cause the manufacture of special manures on a large scale. But the discordant results of analysis ought then to have given a new direction to study. We often find, in comparing different analyses of the same kind of plant, differences of 10 and even 20 per cent. in some ingredients. We know in fact, that we can influence the composition of the ash to a considerable extent, by direct application to the soil. The structure of the plant is such as admits the moisture of the soil to pass up constantly through its roots and stem. Whatever is in the soil, soluble in water, must also take the same route, whether it be just what the plant needs, both in quality and quantity, or more. Any excess of water entering the plant, evaporates again from the leaves, but the salts that were dissolved in the water, remain in the tissues of the plant, where they may often be seen by aid of the microscope in beautiful crystals. It is impossible now to say how much of these substances is just sufficient for this plant, though we know that it will fail to develop itself if there be a want of these, and will be injured by too great an excess. There is doubtless a considerable space between the two limits—a space within which the variations may be harmless. It is then plain that *the composition of the ash of a plant is, to a certain extent, accidental.* It is only from a great number of analyses, that we can derive an average that shall represent the normal composition of the ashes of a plant.

It is now assumed by the best authorities, as the result of the most reliable investigations, that phosphoric acid, silica, lime, magnesia and potash, are the most essential ingredients of cultivated crops. Chlorine, soda, sulphuric acid, iron and manganese, though doubtless essential at least to some parts of plants, nevertheless are subject to the greatest variations, and in most cases are needful only in very small quantity.

I copy here a table drawn up by WOLFF, from the most recent analyses, (the older ones were very erroneous in some points) which gives an average, of the quantity of the more important bodies removed from a hectare of land in a good yield of the ordinary crops. The weights and measures of the original are retained, as the value of the numbers is chiefly comparative. 1 hectare = 2.47 acres—1 kilogramme = 22.8 lbs.

[*For Table, see top of 1st column on next page.*]

In comparing these numbers, it is seen that the quantity of nitrogen is nearly alike in all the cereals, and in meadow hay—while the quantity contained in the produce of a hectare of beans, peas, beats, potatoes and clover, is double so much. The amount of phosphoric acid does not vary very greatly throughout, if we except beans and beets, in which it is above, and meadow hay in which it falls below the average. We

* See Cult. for 1854, p. 233.

Table, showing the amount of the more important substances removed from the soil by crops.

		Yield per hectare in kilogrammes.	Nitrogen—kil.	Ash—kil.	Phosphoric acid kil.	Potash—kil.	Lime and Magnesia—kil.	Silica—kil.
Wheat,.	grain, .	2000	36.8	35.0	16.9	10.5	6.9	0.5
	straw,.	5000	15 0	255.0	9.2	42.1	12.4	158.6
		7000	51 8	260,0	26.1	52.6	18.4	159.1
Rye, ...	grain, .	1600	30.6	27.7	13 1	9.3	4.0	0.6
	straw,.	3800	13.3	152.0	4.0	29.6	10.0	101.1
		5400	43.9	179,7	17.1	38.9	14.0	101.7
Barley,.	grain, .	2300	39.3	63.3	21.8	13.2	5.4	18.4
	straw,.	4000	12.6	180.0	7.2	47.2	16.2	96.3
		6300	51.3	243.3	29.0	60.4	21.6	114.7
Oats. ...	grain, .	2000	37.4	70 0	17 5	11.2	7.7	29.4
	straw,.	4000	12 0	240.0	7.7	62.8	24.0	130.0
		6000	49.4	310.0	25.2	74.0	31.7	159.4
Hog Beans, .	grain .	2000	82 2	63.8	21 8	28.7	8.7	0.4
	straw,.	3000	36 0	150.0	15.0	36.0	54.0	15.0
		5000	118.2	213.8	36.8	64.7	62.7	15.4
Peas,...	grain, .	1500	53.1	37.7	11.4	16.6	6.0	0.6
	straw,.	3000	53.7	150.0	11.3	40.5	54.0	6.0
		4500	106.8	187.7	22.7	57.1	60 0	6.6
Beets, ..	roots, .	40000	96.0	384.0	23.0	172 6	43 8	21.5
	tops, ..	10000	28.0	188.0	12.2	75.2	30.1	13.2
		50000	124 0	572.0	35.2	247.8	73.9	34.7
Potatoes, ...		20000	82.0	204.0	23.1	105.1	14.7	11.4
Clover hay.		6000	139.8	390 0	24.6	105.7	120.9	20.7
Meadow hay, ...		4000	53.2	24.64	13.3	57.9	61.9	77.6

find five times as much potash in a crop of beets as in the cereals, and the quantity is high in case of potatoes and meadow hay; lime is very large in clover, and silica is abundant in the cereals, especially in the straw and chalf.

Now we perceive that practice has taught some facts which this table does not account for. Is it not true that we can reap two good crops of oats from a given soil where we can one of wheat? yet how closely the composition of the two plants agree. Again every body knows that a fair crop of rye can be obtained from a soil where wheat would not pay the expenses of cultivation, yet the table reveals no correspondingly great differences. Compare wheat and clover. The latter contains as much of every ingredient except silica, and indeed 2½ times more nitrogen, 2 times more potash and 6 times more lime and magnesia than the former. We should expect them to be able to grow at least two crops of wheat to one of clover; but we can easier remove three crops of clover than one of wheat.

It may be objected that these are unfair statements, because soda, chlorine, sulphuric acid, &c., are not taken into account. But it must be remembered that these bodies are almost always present in every tolerable soil; in fact buckwheat, white clover, and spurry, that grow on the poorest soil, contain a larger percentage of these bodies than any of the grains.

It is obvious then, that chemical analyses alone cannot guide to a profitable mode of culture, cannot inform us what kind and amount of manure is wanted on a given soil, in order to produce a given plant, or series of plants to the best advantage. In the first place, analysis cannot serve as a practical guide in learning the nature of the soil; and secondly, if it could do this, it cannot enable us to adapt the soil to the wants of the plant.

Not alone the chemistry, but also the physiology and anatomy of the plant must be studied, would we arrive at safe conclusions.

Each species of plant must be separately investigated; deductions drawn from observations and experiments upon one kind of plant, do not necessarily hold true of others.

The causes why plants manifest so different relations to the soil, may be some or all of the following:

1. Although it may be said with sufficient truth, that all the mineral food of the plant is derived from the soil, and though some plants flourish well when they are obliged to acquire all their organic nutriment from the atmosphere; yet most of our cultivated crops are greatly benefited at certain stages of growth, by finding stores of organic food in the soil. In fact, we may say that such stores are necessary to the successful cultivation of some crops.

2. Extent of leaves and roots. Those plants whose leaf-surface is small, and whose roots are few and short, must gather their nourishment from a smaller and more easily exhausted space, than such as have these organs largely developed.

3. It is well known that much difference exists in the structure of the stomata or pores through which leaves and roots absorb their food. This cannot be without influence on the rapidity and luxuriance of their growth.

4. Water is the vehicle which carries into plants all the food that they receive from the soil; therefore the structure of the plant, in so far as it affects the absorption and evaporation of water, is of influence on the other conditions of its growth.

5. It is true that much more of certain organic substances is needed to develop some crops, (ammonia in case of wheat) than the mature crop contains. It is possible that the same occurs with some mineral ingredients.

The natural history, the chemistry, in short the whole science of each agricultural plant, must be made the subject of careful investigation. The knowledge of the general conditions of vegetable growth has arrived at a pretty high state of culture—we must henceforth seek to learn those special conditions which determine the utmost development of individual species. Science and Practice, the laboratory and the farm, have this business to perform together. Every plant can be put into such circumstances as will make it tell what it needs for its successful growth.

Within a few years the right path has been struck, and already some advancement has been made, and I may shortly find opportunity to communicate to your readers, some details concerning the production of

certain crops, some deductions from the numerous experiments which have been carried out in Europe, and especially in Great Britain, during the last ten years.

I trust that in this and a preceding article, I have written nothing to discourage Agricultural Education, or destroy the farmer's confidence in science. If any one promulgates false doctrine in the name of science, he will be found out in time. Truth remains, and has a permanent value, no matter who defends or opposes it.

My object has been to define the limits within which chemical analysis cannot be practically applied. I desire to give chemistry all the credit it deserves, and and have too much regard for that beautiful science, to bring upon it future contempt, by loading it with present adulation. S. W. Johnson.

Munich, Bavaria, Oct. 6, 1854.

Home-made Manures.

There have lately appeared in this paper some rather urgent appeals to farmers on the subject of saving and manufacturing their own manures, instead of sending off money to Peru, or giving it to some boasting, though perhaps dishonest, manufacturer of this or the other chemical fertilizer. One of the considerations by which such appeals may be or are usually enforced is this, that farmers in saving their own manures would not only be practicing economy or saving money, but also be preserving themselves from the loss and annoyance arising from purchasing adulterated articles. Such fraudulent articles are getting to be very abundant. Even respectable dealers, who mean to keep and sell only good articles, occasionally get imposed upon. These important truths, which it is so much for the interest of all farmers duly to consider, have been impressed upon our minds with fresh force, in consequence of the knowledge of a fraud in fertilizers, on a most extensive scale, having been lately brought to our knowledge. From the Transactions of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, we learn that a Mr. G. W. Hay of Roxburghshire, being desirous of trying experiments with various manures, put himself in communication with a dealer or dealers in "agricultural manures." Among the substances to be employed by Mr. Hay were superphosphate of lime, nitrate of soda, phosphate of soda, sulphate of potash, phosphate of magnesia, sulphate of ammonia, and muriate of ammonia. When the parcels of chemicals furnished by the respectable people of whom they were bought, came to be examined, the nitrate of soda was found to contain only 56 lbs. of that substance in every 100 lbs.; the phosphate of soda only 6 lbs. in the 100 lbs.; the sulphate of potash 60 lbs.; the sulphate of ammonia not quite 9¼ lbs; the nitrate of potash (saltpetre of commerce) about 14½ lbs.; the phosphate of magnesia 2¼ lbs.(!!); and the muriate of ammonia 54 lbs. only. As to the superphosphate of lime, as it was called, it contained only 4 per cent. of soluble phosphate of lime; the other 96 lbs. consisting of water, gypsum, siliceous matter, some kind of free acid, and insoluble phosphate of lime, a perfectly useless substance.

When Mr. Hay ventured to complain of the fraud thus practiced upon him, he was coolly informed by the dealers that they could not think of taking their rubbish back. They stated that what he had bought of them was "*the usual quality for agricultural purposes*," and contained "the quantities suitable for plants." That is to say, in the opinion of the dealers the quantity which is *suitable for plants* is 2¼ lbs. in every hundred of phosphate of magnesia, 9¼ lbs. of sulphate of ammonia, 4 lbs. of superphosphate of lime, and 6 lbs. of phosphate of soda. This insolent answer is pretty good proof that some, perhaps most, dealers in "agricultural manures" take it for granted that the agricultural community are easily imposed upon, and may be cheated and fleeced to almost any extent.

By every case of detection and exposure of such frauds, farmers will be more and more persuaded of the expediency of manufacturing their fertilizing substances, as much as possible, at home. They will turn their attention more and more to saving, and putting into available or useable forms, all the urine and excrements upon their premises; to saving their barnyard manure from the wasting influences of exposure to winds and rains and sun; to composting; and to the manufacture of chemical manures under their own eye. That this latter can be done to some extent is evident from the directions given in the last volume of *The Country Gentleman* in regard to the composition and domestic manufacture of what is known in Great Britain by the name of 'Economical Manure.' By every case of exposure of such frauds, the number will be diminished of those who purchase annually various quantities of guano, superphosphate of lime, poudrette, &c., while the guano of their own hens and all the animal excretions on the premises are allowed to go entirely to waste.

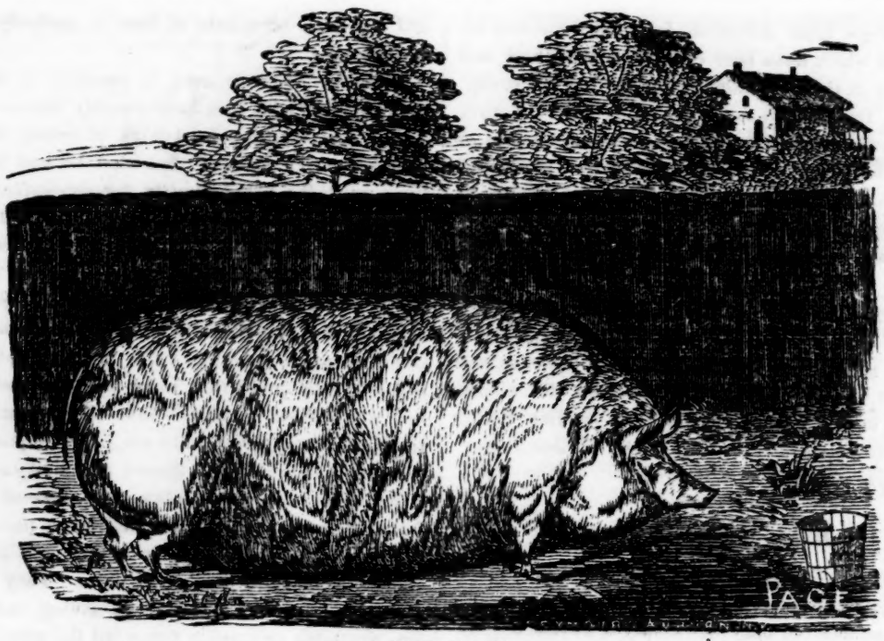
To Destroy Liveforever.

Messrs. Editors—I notice in your paper a reward of ten dollars, offered by Mr. H. Stone of Warren, for a receipt that will effectually destroy Liveforever.

I will give you, for the information of Mr. Stone and your readers generally, the result of my experience in the destruction of this worst of all herbs.

I had in my meadow some ¾ of an acre, completely covered with it. In the autumn of 1852, I commenced by plowing as shallow as possible, or not more than 4 in. deep, laying the furrow as flat as possible so that it could be easily removed. I then carted and packed the turf in heaps about 6 ft. wide, 4 ft. high, and as long as was convenient, say about 4 rods, handling it carefully so as not to scatter the small fibres. I used salt and lime freely during the packing operation.

In this way I have completely removed it from the soil, and I find on opening the heaps that the inside is completely destroyed, and suitable for top dressing or mixing again with the soil. I do not offer this communication wishing or expecting one cent for the information, but simply as the result of my experience, and if of service to any one, they are entirely welcome. S. D. Goodwin. *Bloomfield, Oct.* 16, 1854.



A Suffolk Pig.

LUTHER TUCKER, Esq.—I with this send you a type of a Suffolk Sow I had from the J. C. Jackson importation. I slaughtered her at twenty-two months old. I took her from her second litter of pigs, when they were six week's old, Nov. 20th. On the 27th of the next March, I slaughtered her.

Her live weight was,	450 lbs.
Her carcass and loose fat weighed a fraction over 400 lbs. say,	400
Loss,	50

Auburn, N. Y. April 20, 1854. J. M. SHERWOOD.

[The above though dated six months since, only reached us last week.]

The Health and Comfort of Horses Sacrificed.

This is a thing which may be seen almost every day. The ways in which it is done are manifold. The health and comfort of man's noble servant are sacrificed in the stable, on the road, and also when tied up without shelter from cold and wind, while his master is cozily enjoying himself by a warm fireside. The feelings of every one who has any compassion in the constitution of his nature, must often be pained by sights which so often come before him of the comfort of the noble horse so horribly neglected, and heedlessly sacrificed.

One of the ways in which this is done, is probably little considered. Many owners of horses, probably, shut them up in a close, unventilated and perhaps dark stable, without its once occurring to them that they are thus injuring the health and destroying the comfort of their animals. The stench and pungency which meet one on opening the stable-door in the morning, might make some think of this matter who do not seem to. If they were shut up a night or a few hours in their own stable, perhaps then they might. A horse cannot breathe the atmosphere of many stables without injury to his eyes, and especially to his lungs or respiratory organs. As this is the season when horses are being stabled, pasturing being about over, it would be well for many horses and for their owners too, if they would see that their stables are provided with means of ventilation and that every source of pungent and foul smells, be removed as early and as effectually as possible.

FARMING IN CALIFORNIA.—The *Alta California*, speaking of farming in that state, says "there is no branch of business considered at a lower ebb in this country at present than farming. It is the general impression that every one engaged in this occupation is driving a ruinous business. It is scarcely reasonable to suppose that it would be otherwise, when it is borne in mind that wheat is not selling at one half the price it brings in New-York, while labor on this side of the continent is three or four times as high. The native richness of our soil makes up, however, in some instances, for this discrepancy. In conversation yesterday with a farmer from Alameda County, on the bay, about ten miles south of Oakland, he informed us that he had found his crop this year quite profitable. His land is a very choice selection. He had 76 acres of oats, which yielded 7,200 bushels, or about 95 bushels to the acre; 23 acres of wheat, which yielded 1,800 bushels or about 78 bushels to the acre; 25 acres of barley yielding 1,500 bushels, or 60 bushels to the acre; and 53 acres of potatoes, 17 of which had been dug, producing 2,600 sacks of 130 lb. each, or nearly 20,000 lbs. to the acre."

Fig. 1.

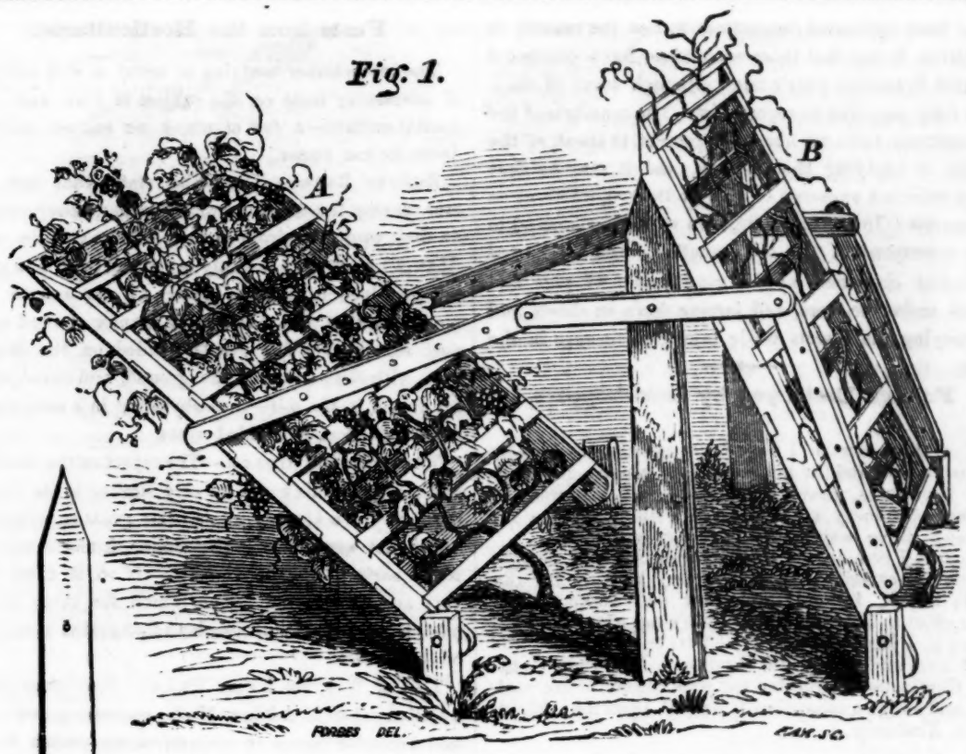
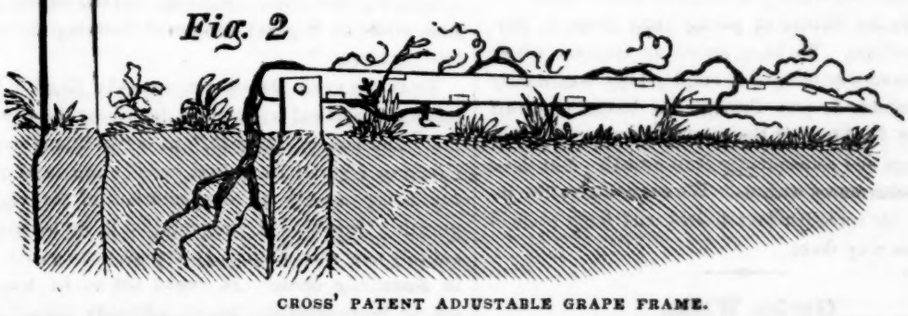


Fig. 2



CROSS' PATENT ADJUSTABLE GRAPE FRAME.

Cross' Patent Grape-Frame.

In the Country Gentleman for Nov. 2., we gave some description of an adjustable grape frame recently patented by Mr. S. O. Cross of Sandy Hill. We have since been furnished with a cut representing it, which is given above. By reference to our former notice, the reader will have no difficulty in understanding its purposes, and will at once see how valuable it may be in affording conveniences for sheltering the vine from winter frosts, exposing the fruit to the sun, &c. Fig. 1, is a perspective view, and Fig. 2, is a vertical section, showing how the frame can be lowered to the ground for any desirable purpose. Frame A, represents a view of grapes grown whilst the frame rested against the posts, and now partially depressed, exposing the fruit to the sun, and bringing the foliage underneath. Frame B, shows how the vine is secured within it. C, represents the frame as the inventor designs leaving it until the grapes get their growth. He says in a letter, that "the elasticity of the vine is sufficient to protect it from injury in bending, and when the frame is properly arranged it does not draw on the vine to operate it." His claim is for an "Adjustable Elevating and Depressing Grape Frame," with, or without supporters, attached and made of any known material. It therefore embraces a variety of modifications not represented in the above.

The New Curculio Remedy.

MESSRS. EDITORS—I would ask you how soon we may look for the report of the committee, on Mr. MATTHEWS' remedy for the curculio's depredations on the Plum tree? I have seven or eight fine plum trees, and cannot get so many plums in a season, although the trees blow full and the fruit sets well. If he has found out a remedy against the attacks of the plum weevil, so that we can be sure to save our plums, if made known to the public, or to every person who will apply for it, I will be willing to contribute my mite for a knowledge of it. A SUBSCRIBER. *West Bridgewater, Mass.*

We have many inquiries of this kind. It is perhaps no more than due to the public, and to the Associations

who have appointed committees to test the remedy in question, to say that those committees have concluded to give it another year's trial, although *some* of them felt fully prepared to report now. The members of the committees have no liberty at present to speak of the mode of applying this remedy, and it may be that they were not expected to divulge their opinions as to its merits. In the mean time we would recommend to our correspondent the old, excellent, and well tried remedies combined, of the confinement of pigs and geese under the trees, and jarring down on sheets and destroying the insects while laying their eggs in the fruit.

Foliage Destroyed by Grasshoppers.

For three seasons I have been greatly troubled by grasshoppers, and the present season greatly damaged. My fruit trees, young shade trees, and evergreens—indeed shrubbery, vines and every thing else in my grounds, have been ruined by the grasshoppers.

Before I commenced transplanting again, I thought I would ascertain if there was any remedy for this evil; if not, I would surrender and make no farther effort to improve and beautify my grounds, but if there is, I shall continue my efforts to grow shade, and fruit trees and ornamental shrubbery. Will the "Country Gentleman" enlighten me with regard to this matter, and oblige a subscriber? JNO. P. DOBYNS. *Maysville, Kentucky.*

In the Northern States, there are seasons of occasional occurrence, when grasshoppers prove quite destructive to the foliage of *young* fruit trees, in particular localities. We have known an instance where a nurseryman was obliged to employ boys continually for some weeks, to pass through his blocks of dwarf pears, and frighten off the grasshoppers, or else lose their foliage and consequently their growth. But these are rare occurrences with us. We cannot give the information our correspondent desires, and hope some of our readers may do so.

Garden Walks.

Desirous of making my garden walks hard and firm, especially some few that are sloping and apt to wash away in winter, I made use of tar as recommended in one of the late nos. of your paper, but without the wished for success. It is now three weeks since I applied it to the sandy walks in my garden, but it does not harden. I have tried boiled and cold gas tar, but without the desired effect either on sand or gravel. I want my garden walks as hard as stone. Please tell me how they can be made so by tar? AUSTIN J. ROBERTS. *Lakeville, Mass.*

Not having had occasion to construct inclined walks, we are not familiar with the details, and would therefore request information from some one who has had practical experience. We have only witnessed the entirely successful results in the few cases that have come under our personal observation, and are unable to say how long a period of time is usually required to render hard and firm the composition made use of. If the tar was good, we have no doubt the walks will get ultimately harder, even in case the process may be retarded perhaps by too small a proportion of sand with the gravel, which we think an essential ingredient.

Facts from the Horticulturist.

The last number contains as usual a rich collection of interesting facts on the subject of fruit and ornamental culture—a few of which we extract and condense for our pages.

BUDDED ROSES.—The editor states that last summer, during the dry and warm weather, many varieties on their own roots dropped their foliage; while on the *Manetti* stock they not only continued fresh and green, but remained in blossom nearly all the season. We may add that ELLWANGER & BARRY showed us the past season very fine plants budded on the Manetti even with the surface of the ground, and subsequently set deeper in the soil—thus obviating in a mearure the usual objections to budded roses.

THE CONCORD GRAPE.—The report on the character and merits of this grape is very similar in its views to those we have already given. Its great superiority in *size* is not mentioned. The editor thinks it only *two weeks* earlier than the Isabella. If so, it must ripen very nearly with the Diana, which for three seasons past, has matured with us about that period in advance of the former.

LARGE WINTER NELIS PEARS.—Specimens are acknowledged from Adrian, Mich., measuring over eight and a quarter inches in circumference—which is very large for this high flavored winter variety. These specimens, ripened about Christmas, into the richest juiciness, would be in great danger of throwing the editor into raptures.

EXAGGERATED DESCRIPTIONS.—An English horticultural periodical is quoted as describing the new rose, the "*Duchess of Norfolk*," as a "*brilliant colored climbing Hybrid Perpetual rose*"—the term *climbing* being merely an exaggeration of its vigorous growth. This kind of exaggeration is, we believe, not entirely new with English gardeners, more particularly in describing colors. It ought not to be tolerated among horticulturists, whose language should be as pure and truthful as the beautiful forms they cultivate. Falsehood and elegant roses make a bad mixture—and we might with equal propriety describe the Bartlett pear as a foot long, and the Winkfield as so productive that two hundred bushels are usually produced per tree the third year.

ASTONISHING TRANSMUTATION.—We copy the following entire, and commend it as an interesting addition to the cabinet of facts iu the possession of the advocates of transmutation:—

A gentleman in this county presented us with two Apples, taken, he says from the same limb of the same tree, which had never been grafted or budded, one a russet like *Pomme gris*, and the other a large green apple. We of course set this down as a mistake. But, what was our surprise, on receiving a letter from a gentleman in Jamaica, L. I., (whom we visited during the time of holding the State Fair, and who showed us, tmong other things, a large patch of beets, from which he offered to supply us,) containing the following announcement: "On examining my Beets I found that some of them had turned to Sweet Potatoes, and therefore send you along a barrel, which I hope you will receive in good order." This is the greatest transmuation we ever heard of, and hope it will continue.

The Housewife.

FRIED APPLES.

Who does not like fried apples? We all like apples in a raw state, or when they are baked, or stewed; and it cannot be denied that they furnish one of the most wholesome and agreeable kinds of diet. Although apples raw, stewed, or baked, may be pronounced *excellent* and *delicious*, still, there are many kinds, when fried, which are *super-excellent*:—and they, who seldom meet with a dish of *fried* apples, often wonder why they are not *always* fried, instead of baked. When apples are baked, they often burst open, and much of the best part of them flows out as juice, and is lost. But when they are fried, the whole is saved; and "it is a dainty dish." In those regions where potatoes are few and poor, on account of the rot, fried apples are an excellent substitute. A dish of fried apples is quickly prepared for the table, which is often a consideration of no small importance. Wash them—cut them in two—take out the stem, core and calyx, and, unpealed, put them into a tin pan with butter, or the gravy of baked pork, with some water, in proportion to the quantity to be fried—cover them with a lid—set them on the stove—stir them occasionally, until they become soft—and be careful not to *burn* them. Romanites, which are often almost worthless, baked or raw, "disappear with good gusto when fried." We may truthfully pronounce despisable Penics, when fried, *good;* but the Porters, Bellflowers, Tallman sweets, and a long list which we might name, when fried, are really a luxury. Sour apples do not fry well—they fry to pieces too much. NON EPICURUS.

CORN HUSK BEDS.

A correspondent of the Germantown Telegraph describes his method of making these beds, as follows:

As soon as my corn is stripped from the husks, I select the finer and more flexible ones, and dry them in the shade. As soon as all moisture is expelled, the hard ends, or those nearest the buts of the cob, are cut off, and the remainder drawn through an instrument purposely constructed for the business, and which divides them into numerous narrow strips. This is all that is necessary; the material is now ready to be put into the bed, and in point of cleanliness, durability and elasticity, will be found greatly superior to straw, stripped hazel, or, indeed, any article that can be used. In Spain and Portugal, and indeed in many other countries, the materials used for beds, are of the most healthy character. In the former country, feather beds are rarely seen, and the same remark applies with almost equal correctness, to Portugal. In both of these countries, the husks of corn are almost invariably used as a substitute for feathers. They are prepared and sold in the markets by the peasantry, and for a price merely nominal. I have known "under-beds" of this description to last ten years. They are almost wholly exempt from that terrible annoyance to chambermaids—DUST, and, indeed, from dirt of all kinds. Straw, even of the best sort, will last but a short time. It chaffs, is liable to permeate the closest tick, and requires frequent replenishing, which is always a disagreeable job. Besides, husk beds are much cooler than any others. If the ends of the husks are cut off carefully, and the stripping properly performed, so that all the strips will be of nearly equal width, one will repose as comfortably upon a husk bed, especially on a hot night, as upon those of feathers. Their elasticity is retained for a long time, and if well shaken up when the bed is made, you have the luxury of a new bed every night.

LARD.

The following remarks, which we find in the *Dollar Newspaper*, contain some good suggestions, but the writer is mistaken as to the "great-grandfather" part of the business, for it is absolutely necessary to keep the rough lard hot for several hours, or else a large portion of it will remain behind. If taken off the fire as soon as it appears to be melted, at least two-thirds of the lard will remain unseparated. It is true there is nothing in the whole routine of housekeeping that requires more attention, in keeping the lard at the melting point without burning:

I find in the "Newspaper," of late, several communications in regard to curing hams. This is all very well, but not one has given us a hint in respect to "frying out lard." To a farmer's family this is certainly an important item, and I propose to give your readers practical experience on this point. When the fat is over the fire, it requires all attention. In this section, some still hold on to the opinions of their great grandfathers, and believe in the old practice of boiling the lard for hours; yes, a whole day before it can be in a proper state to put away. This is a mistaken idea. All that is necessary is to put the fat in thick iron pots; let it simmer over the fire, and as soon as melted, skim the lard off, and put it in tin pots. By adopting this plan, much time and labor is saved, the lard is sweet, white and good, and can be kept for years. B. F. B. *New Castle Co., Delaware*, 1853.

ECONOMY IN WASHING.

Since the disagreeable rite celebrated as "washing day" cannot be dispensed with altogether, we remember to have promised some instructions to young housekeepers overlooking the ceremony for the first time.

The first grand requisite is plenty of good river or rain water; when it is necessary that hard water should be substituted, some simple chemical process can be used successfully to lighten the labor. If soda is chosen, the less quantity that will suffice the better. This should be dissolved by pouring boiling water over it before it is put in the tub; it will not answer so well thrown in in lumps. The soap should not be too new, or it will waste. The bars should be cut in pieces as soon as brought home, and so exposed to the air.

We give a recipe for preparing suds, recommended by good authority: To every eight gallons of water add an ounce and a half of yellow soap cut small, one ounce of soda, and one pint of lime-water. The clothes should be laid to soak in cold water some hours, then put on with the "suds" cold; let them come to boil slowly, and boil half an hour. Take them out, examine each article carefully, and rub with soap where necessary. Washing "Peggies" or "Jennies" are very destructive things, and nothing but rubbing, with judgment will clean some clothes.

Those who are not so anxious to save themselves trouble, will find it better to soap with good yellow soap and warm water, and rub them once, or twice, or thrice as they are more or less soiled. Boil them well for half an hour, and rinse in blueing water.—The best laundresses prefer hard water rinsings.

Flannels and colored clothes shall have a separate consideration.—*Ger. Tel.*

CURE FOR BONE FELONS.

My practice with bone-felons, is to direct a poultice of bread and milk, flaxseed, or slippery elm, for a few days, perhaps five, and then make a deep and free incision to let the matter out. When this practice has been followed, I have never seen any loss of bone or stiffened fingers; on the contrary, where timely opening has been neglected one or the other of these casualties has frequently resulted.—*American Ag.*

Seedling Potato.

MESSRS. EDITORS—Accompanying this note, you will receive a few potatoes,—raised from seed by myself. As you will perceive, they resemble in color and general appearance the Carter, a seedling from which variety,—grown in the near vicinity of the Mercer,—it is. Its edible quality, is fully equal to that of its parents, and its character as a yielder is far better than that of either of them, being in this particular *better* than any white variety with which I am acquainted. Its history I will give you as briefly as possible.

Seven years ago last spring I sowed forty seeds, all from the same parentage; in the autumn, I saved the produce of those which gave promise of being superior; this culling left me twenty-five varieties for further experiments. In the succeeding spring I selected such of those as had kept well, and were free from disease. I continued this course each season, selecting such *only*, as were of superior edible character, as well as great yielders, and free from disease. This severe test left me *three* years since but this one variety which I shall call the WENDELL POTATO. I have cultivated it since,—in order to try it fully, in juxtaposition to the Mercer, Pinkeye, Yam, June, Merino, and a few others, and it has proved itself a far more prolific variety than either of them—except the last, which you are aware is red in color and of inferior character, and has never shown the least indication of disease, even during the season of 1853, when every one of the other varieties were seriously affected by it. I am thus particular in giving you the whole history of this seedling, not only because I am convinced that it is a valuable acquisition, but because I feel a little vain of my success. Yours very truly, HERMAN WENDELL, M. D.

Albany, October 30th.

P. S. I shall place in the care of R. H. Pease—successor to Emory & Co.—of this city, a few of the potatoes for sale, from whom they may be obtained by those wishing to give it a trial.

Carrots and Deep Plowing.

Mr. TUCKER—I have a piece of land that inclines gently to the south, the soil sandy loam, with a trace of clay. Last year melons were grown on it. About the 20th of last May, I gave it a generous top dressing of hen manure; then plowed it a foot deep, then another application of the same fertilizer, after which it was reduced to fine tilth by the harrow and garden rake. Carrot seed was then drilled in, in rows 10 to 12 inches apart, and the weeding afterwards faithfully attended to. The variety was the Orange, which is the best I am acquainted with. The product was 1375 bushels to the acre. We attribute our unusual crop, first, to abundant manuring—second, to deep plowing—third, to the compactness of the rows, there being nearly two rows where cultivators usually make but one. The dryness of the season did not affect the plants in the least, in our opinion, nor in our judgment will it ever injure any crop but slightly when the earth is effectually stirred a foot or more in depth. We have a few acres of slightly heavy, and slightly damp ground, on which we should like to plant potatoes another season. We do not know what variety of this root will be most likely to prosper on such a soil, but have thought that perhaps some of your readers could advise us. C. SMITH. *East Hamburg, Erie Co., Oct. 29th*, 1854.

Massachusetts Hort. Society.

This Society, so long holding the highest rank of any Hort. Society in the country, seems of late to have fallen under evil influences from some quarter. Among other things, a charge of a very disreputable character was made last spring, against one of its members, on the authority of a report of a special committee, and a very severe censure passed on the offending member. It would seem, however, that the charges made by the special committee, were not true—at least it is stated in a Boston paper, that at one of its recent meetings "E. S. Rand, Esq., the Chairman of the Committee appointed for that object, offered a preamble and resolution, the former denying the statements made by the Select Committee, May 26th last, and the latter *rescinding* the same from the records, together with the vote of censure passed on Mr. C. M. Hovey at the same meeting. The meeting was one of the largest ever held at the rooms, and the vote unanimous." This is but a lame apology to one whose good name has been traduced in the horticultural circles of this country and Europe, for we perceive that the *Gardener's Chronicle* and other foreign horticultural publications, have republished the charges and the vote of censure, as a specimen "of the Yankee variety of the class of mercenary prize hunters." We hope Prof. Lindley and others who have copied the charge, will note the refutation.

YELLOW LEGGED DORKINGS.

Our correspondent, ALLA DU PAYS, in a letter published some weeks since, asked us whether Dorkings with yellow legs were to be visited with outlawry from the lists of pure blooded Five-toes, or whether she might still cherish them as true and loyal heirs to her favor. We thereupon searched the authorities who roost along our bookshelves, and found one say one thing and one another, and the most part nothing at all on the mooted point. So we gallantly referred judgment to the Editor (whom, by the way, we believe to be an *Editress*) of the London *Poultry Chronicle*. Our oracle has mounted the sacred tripod and, August 30th, thus held discourse:

We are much flattered that our opinion stands so high among our transatlantic brethren, and we are very sorry our first verdict must dispel an illusion. However the golden color mentioned may rejoice the eyes of a "digger," or be sought in California or Australia, when found on the continuations of a Dorking fowl, it is to our mind an unmistakable proof of a *faux pas*. We do not accuse the present inhabitants of our fair querist's yard with being the actual culprits, as it is notorious that the effect of a *mesalliance* that took place years ago may only now show itself. We regret we cannot grant a dispensation for this Malvolio-like fancy or propensity."

We bow before the verdict and are willing to admit its justice. To our mind, though, the *Poultry Chronicle* should be glad, and not "very sorry," to "dispel an illusion" on any point in which it finds its weaker brethren in the fog. Will ALLA DU PAYS accept the judgment, or will she plead its reversal?

Answers to Inquiries.

Grass-Seed Harrows.—(*A Subscriber*, Elliott, Maine.) Brush harrows are very imperfect, and constantly liable to get out of good working condition, by clogging and matting together. Generally speaking, however, we have no substitute for them for harrowing in grass seed. There is no doubt that harrows made in the ordinary way, but with much smaller and more numerous teeth would answer an excellent purpose, and far exceed in perfection of work, any brush harrow. We would make the following as a suggestion, which we have never tried, and for which we shall charge nothing for the patent-right. Procure pieces of inch and a half or two inch plank, four or five feet long, and about a foot wide, of hard elm or any other firm wood, hard to split. Drive through these at regular distances, large-sized *cut nails;* perhaps 12 or 20d. nails would be of suitable size. Let them be driven in as far as the head, so as to project a few inches on the other side. Now let several of these spiked pieces of plank be hinged together, and the instrument is completed. A harrow is formed with small teeth, as numerous as may be desired; and it is evident that a single passage of this harrow over on ordinary plowed field would give it a surface as fine and as mellow as that of the most finished onion-bed; and that if the surface has been previously levelled by harrowing, grass-seed may be raked in by means of this instrument in the most even and perfect manner, to a depth which may be regulated by the size of the nails used in its construction.

As very few soils are perfectly free from grass roots and stones, it will be necessary, in order to prevent clogging, that the nails should be driven *obliquely*, so as to *point backwards*. This will enable them to mount any obstruction readily, and to clear themselves with facility from any matter tending to clog them.

A strong recommendation of this plan is its *cheapness*. Fifty cents in all for plank, nails, and hinges, with a few hours work, would propably complete the whole.

We hope some of our readers will try this plan and give us the results; at the same time we intend to give it a fair trial, and report. There is no doubt that a contrivance, similar to this, at least in its intention if not in its details, would prove of great value for many purposes besides seeding with grass, among which we may mention the harrowing of wheat-fields early in spring, preparing onion-beds, mellowing the soil for drilling in the seeds of root crops, &c

Management of Bogs and Peat.—1. I wish to know what is the best course to take with a peat bog, to reclaim it after thorough draining—it is covered with moss and small roots from two to four inches deep.

2. What is the best substance or substances to mix with peat or muck to make a compost for a clay soil.

3. Will it benefit the crop to spread muck without its being composted, on the sward, and turn it over for corn. N. Jenks. *Barnston, Sept.* 26, 1854.

The first great requisite in reclaiming a bog, is thorough and complete underdraining—this gives full command to the operator. The next is to seed it with timothy, red top, or clover, or a mixture of all these, as the case may admit. The drier and firmer kinds of bogs only will admit of a good and certain growth of clover, unless an application of lime, ashes, or marl, is given. It may be well however to mix a portion of clover seed in all cases, and give it a fair chance Timothy scarcely ever fails, on a well drained bog, with a properly prepared surface.

If moss and small roots interfere with plowing, they should be collected into heaps, and either drawn off, or burned when dry enough, at some time when there is enough of moisture in the peat to prevent its taking fire.

One-third of stable manure, and perhaps a little ashes, will form the best compost with peat, applying each in their successive layers, so as to give a thorough intermixture of the parts. On light soils, a large proportion of turf and loam will be beneficial.

Generally, the soil is not much benefitted, immediately, by the application of peat only—in a few instances, we have observed it very considerably so. It is however, a manure that remains several years in the soil, which should be taken into the account.

Stabling Cows.—In looking over the columns of a recent number of the Country Gentleman, I notice an inquiry to prevent cows from lying in their manure when in the stable. The remedy is very simple. It is by having a gutter drop immediately behind the cows, 6 inches deep and 16 inches wide. If cows are fastened with yokes, they need about 4 ft. 9 in. to stand upon. By having the stalls long enough you have a walk back of the drop, which is convenient for walking on, setting pails, &c. I have a drop in my steer stable nearly like the above plan, and they keep almost as clean as cows. A Constant Reader.

Mediterranean Wheat—Selection of Seed, &c.

Remarks somewhat of an opposite character, by various contributors have appeared in the columns of the "*Country Gentleman*" of latter time, in regard to Mediterranean wheat. One of your correspondents, "F. D. C." condemns it so far as to say, that "if you cannot by good culture and early sowing, raise white wheat, then give up its cultivation for the present at least." I have raised both white and red wheat, and would recommend to your readers who have been *unsuccessful* in raising the former, to give the Mediterranean a fair trial. A number of years since, through the kindness of a friend, I obtained some two or three bushels of the best Genesee white, that could be procured, and for a time was much pleased with its produce—the yield was good for a year or two, and the flour made from it, of the best quality. It however soon depreciated; the fly made sad havoc with it, which, together with the rust, sometimes reduced the crop about one half.

I was then induced to get of a neighbor who had raised it successfully, a few bushels of Mediterranean wheat. The result was, on that part of the field where

it was grown, I had about eight bushels more per acre than on the part where the white grew. At that time there was a prejudice against it—some condemning it, and saying, that the flour made from it, was little better than rye. It is now fully acclimated and such complaints are rarely heard, though it must be admitted it is not *altogether* proof, against either *fly* or *rust*, and I never found any wheat that was. From what I have got out this season, I think I am safe in estimating the yield from 20 acres at 500 bushels. This, at present prices, is better than raising no wheat at all.

My practice is to plant a field with corn two years in succession, planting on the inverted sod the first year—the second year I manure the ground heavily in the spring from the barn-yard, turning it under well, and after passing a heavy roller over it, it is without further preparation marked out and planted. This manuring sometimes serves for both the corn and the wheat crop: but last season, I had enough left over to serve as a light dressing for about *half* the ground; the remainder had about 175 lbs. of guano mixed with plaster, to the acre. There was very little difference perceptible at harvest, and I thought the money expended for guano was not lost on the wheat crop alone, and I incline to think the grass will derive some benefit from it.

Farming as I do, with wheat after corn, and generally a *part* of the field after potatoes, I am apt to be a little behind in seeding, and even here I find an advantage in Mediterranean wheat, as on trial I have found it to do better sown late, than any variety I have ever tried, either white or red. I mostly sow timothy seed soon after sowing (or I should say drilling, for all my wheat for a few years past has been put in with a drill which has pretty generally taken the place of other modes hereaway,) and clover early in the spring following. In this way I generally succeed in having my fields well seeded with grass. There is one remark of your correspondent, that with your permission, (though with no view of engaging in controversy) I will not pass over unnoticed. Speaking of the wheat above mentioned, he says,—"It is more liable to smut, rust and chess, which grows more natural with it, than with any other." As regards *smut*, I have never been troubled with that—as to *chess*, it will grow *natural* with any wheat that contains it; and, give it fair play, overpower it too, in due time. It is however the proper business of the husbandman not to admit any such intruder, and the only safe plan is, to sow wheat perfectly clean. If this course is adhered to, the chess, as a matter of course, will soon disappear. I once heard a man complain, who had sold his wheat,that he had been *docked* in the price on its delivery, on account of the *cockle!* I believe the latter has never been prized as an article for bread, whatever may have been its value in former times when *large wigs* and *powdered wigs* were both in fashion. The sooner a farmer makes up his mind not to sow or drill in with his wheat, either cockle or chess, the better for all parties.

The cause of *rust* is perhaps not very well understood. The season seems to have something to do with it—the kind of weather when the wheat is about coming to maturity—the kind of manure used, heavy fogs, &c. are all thought to have an influence. It is rare I believe, that wheat that has had a good dressing of leached ashes, has been injured with the rust, and I think it is more apt to escape where barn-yard manure has not been *directly* applied to it, but to the crop that has *preceded* it, either of corn or potatoes, provided it has been put in sufficiently early, as late sown wheat is much more liable to rust than early sown.

After a trial of some ten or twelve years, I have generally succeeded so well with the Mediterranean wheat, that I feel cautious of making a change, except in a small way, or as an experiment, nor would I advise any one under the *same circumstances*, to substitute it for a good variety of white wheat. But whatever variety may be used, too much care cannot be taken, to have it perfectly *clean*. It is considered among good farmers not only necessary to have a good *variety* of corn, adapted to the soil and climate, but also to *select* the best *ears* of that variety for planting, and that an improvement may be made in *that* way. If a similar plan was pursued in regard to seed wheat, an advantage would probably result, although the process might seem to be rather a tedious one. There is however one plan within the reach of all, at a trifling expense either of money or time. By means of a hand-riddle of the proper size, all the small shrivelled, and imperfect grains can be taken out of a few bushels of wheat, together with the chess, cockle, &c. with very little labor or loss of time (for it may be done at a time of leisure,) and this wheat appropriated for seed. A small quantity in this way would furnish seed for the next year, and if this plan was followed up for a few years by our farmers generally, there would probably be a manifest improvement in the quality of the wheat grown, and the controversy about wheat *turning to chess*, would soon come to an end and be put at rest. We never have any complaint about wheat turning to rye, and yet if both are raised on the same farm they are very apt to get together, and in some instances it has been hard to tell which was intended to be raised. If our winters were not rather severe for the oat crop, the wheat would also have to contend against that.

In conclusion I would say that probably four-fifths of all the wheat grown in this county (Salem, N. J.) at the present time, is Mediterranean; at least I was informed that of the two to three hundred thousand bushels bought and sold yearly by one dealer, that was about the proportion. This shows how it is estimated in some sections of the country, however low it may stand in others. C. W. 10*th month* 30*th*, 1854.

THE COW CHERRY AGAIN.—Our friends in New Scotland keep us apprised of the amount of butter produced by the cow Cherry, owned by Miss BRICE. She had a calf on the 28th Sept., and from her milk in 28 days (Oct. 2 to 28) was made 46½ lbs. of good butter, which was sold in this city at 2s. 4d. = $13.29.

Notes for the Month.

☞ *We ask the particular attention of all our readers, to the first article in this paper.*

THE OHIO STATE FAIR.—We learn from last week's despatches from Newark, that the exhibition of stock at the Ohio State Fair, was very large and exceedingly fine—the animals showing none of the bad effects expected from the drouth; that the exhibition of short-horned cattle predominated largely over other descriptions, and that this part of the exhibition was said to be finer than at any previous Fair in that State The swine, poultry, &c., were numerous and of excellent quality. Their stalls and pens extended for more than a mile and a quarter, encircling the grounds, and they were nearly all filled. Some of the horses are also said to have been very handsome. The attendance seems to have been very good, the weather glorious, and every thing to have gone off to the satisfaction of all, except some who had been inconvenienced by the detention of freights.

THE NEW ENGLAND HORSE SHOW, at Brattleboro, seems to have met with reasonable success. Entries are stated to have been about 150 in number, and to have included some animals of great value. The matches were quite exciting; the time, both of single and matched horses, fair; and the attendance liberal. On Friday several miscellaneous matches were made, and a trial of ladies for the prize of a gold watch offered for the most skillful equestrianship, came off with *eclat.*

☞ We see by the last number of the London *Gardener's Chronicle*, that Mr. THOMAS' recent work —"Farm Implements, and the Principles of their Construction and Use"—has been republished in London with all its illustrations.

☞ We are indebted to Mr. QUINBY, author of a book explaining the "Mysteries of Bee-Keeping," for a box of very excellent honey. We learn that he owns in part or wholly about 400 swarms of bees, and has sold within the last year nearly *four tons* of honey. He wishes us to state that his book, above mentioned, may be obtained of C. M. SAXTON, Agricultural Book Publisher, 152 Fulton Street, New-York, or of the author, M. QUINBY, Palatine Church, N. Y.

SEEDLING POTATOES.—We have received from Dr. WENDELL, a basket of the Wendell Seedling Potato, described by him in another page of this paper. They are certainly of a very good quality for the table, and with the character for hardiness and productiveness which Dr. W. gives them, must prove a desirable addition to our list of good potatoes.

BUCKS CO. (PA.) FAIR.—We have received from some friend, the Bucks Co. Intelligencer, containing a full account of the exhibition of the Bucks Co. Ag. Society, from which we learn that the stock of horses, cattle, grain, vegetables, household products, &c., were more abundant than on any former occasion, and that the Society have abundant reason for congratulation in the success of the exhibition. We give in another page a notice of the prize corn crop of WM. STAVELY, Esq who it appears also received the first for wheat, on a field of Mediterranean wheat, consisting of twenty-two acres, oats stubble fallow, heavily manured, and plowed in during the month of August, plowed a second time about the middle of September, and drilled in at the rate of one-and-a-half bushels per acre, and which it was estimated by the committee would average thirty bushels per acre. The committee concur in opinion that the extraordinary success which Mr. Stavely met with the present season in growing corn, is in a great measure attributable to his mode of deep plowing.

STONE HILL POTATOES.—Mr. D. A. BULKELEY, Stone Hill Farm, Williamstown, Mass., will please accept our thanks for a barrel of his fine potatoes. In a note accompanying them, Mr. B. says—"I send you a barrel of Stone Hill Potatoes, as a sample of my crop of ten acres, that averaged over 200 bushels per acre —a good yield for so dry a season as we have just past. The oldest inhabitants in these parts, never knew it so dry, nor when every thing suffered as much as the present season. These potatoes are the only kind that have yielded a return for the labor bestowed upon the crop, and many have come to the point not to plant any other kind."

CROPS IN BRADFORD CO., PA.—Extract of a letter from a subscriber at Troy, Pa.—"Wheat is scarce and high—at present worth $2 a bushel. Rye is $1.06—Corn, 80 cents—Oats, 40 cents. Buckwheat was an entire failure. Potatoes half a crop. Grass excellent."

SOWING PLASTER ON WHEAT IN THE FALL.—One of our correspondents, Mr. D. A. BULKLEY of Williamstown, Mass., last spring recommended, very strongly, the sowing of gypsum or plaster of Paris, on wheat in the fall, at the rate of a bushel and a half to the acre, contending that it would bring the grain to maturity from ten to fifteen days earlier than if sown in the spring. Mr. D. S. MERICK, of Nunda, Livingston county, N. Y. writes to the *Rural New-Yorker*, that last fall he sowed two bushels of plaster per acre on part of a field of wheat, and on the other part which was considered the best land, he put nothing. The plaster part of the field gave 18 bushels while that which was not plastered produced only 10 bushels per acre. Mr. W. finds the fall, in all cases, the best time to sow plaster.

STOCK FOR THE WEST.—A correspondent at Middlebury, Vt., under date of Nov. 3, writes us as follows: "Charles S. Wright of Racine, (Wis.) left here this morning, with some fine Durham Cattle bought of Col. C. L. Smith and H. Plumley of Bristol—some Herefords of A. L. Bingham—ten brood mares and colts of the Eclipse, Hambletonian and Morgan Stock, bought of A. P. Skiff, Geo. Gale, S. W. Jewett, A. Dana, and C. Goodwin—also 44 French Merino Sheep of S. W. Jew-

ett of Middlebury, Vt.—all of which purchase amounted to about $9,000. The enterprising farmers and stock breeders of Vermont are making a harvest, while Wisconsin will be none the poorer."

STOCK FOR SOUTH AMERICA.—Mr. Jacob E. Spring of Buenos Ayres, recently bought of SOLOMAN W. JEWETT of Middlebury, Vermont, some Hereford, Durham and Devon Cattle, and French Merino Sheep, which were shipped by the way of Messrs. Larkin & Stackpole of Boston. Mr. Spring has 25,000 Sheep, many of them high grade Merinos. It costs about 6 cents per lb. to raise wool in Buenos Ayres.

WIND POWER.—We think our correspondent "A. C." will find Halliday's Wind-mill to answer his purpose exactly. It is we believe, warranted "to adjust itself to every breeze;" and from what we saw of it at the State Fair, we are inclined to believe that it cannot fail to prove of great value in raising water.

LIGHT WANTED.—Mr. WIGHT, editor of the *Prairie Farmer*, in his notes of a recent tour to the east, in the November no. of that paper, thus alludes, in speaking of his visit to the editorial fraternity at Rochester, to Prof. Mapes:

I did see Mr. HARRIS, the practical and scientific editor of the Rural; and he seemed none the worse for his encounter with the man of Phosphates—editor Mapes. I learned by the by—not here, but in several other places—quite a number of things of this same Prof. Mapes, as he is called; the chief of which is that he is no more of a chemist than the next man; that is, that he is no otherwise such than one can become by reading. Now no one can be a chemist by reading, any more than one can be a shoemaker by reading how to make shoes. I had supposed that as he professed to prescribe for poor soils, he was an analyzer of soils; but I was assured that *he had never made an analysis of a soil in his life*; and is no more capable of doing so than a gimlet is of making an auger hole. I heard more good stories too of the large crops which he has had the credit of raising, during the last few years, which if true would put his success as a farmer on a par with his claims to be thought a chemist. In fact, it *is a fact*, that there are many people "down East," who think that *Professor* Mapes and *Professor* Comstock would do well to form a copartnership and go into business together. From what I can learn, as soon as the new doctrine of congenialities is fairly established by "the spirits" now having it in charge, this is likely to come to pass. If it does, we have much to hope from it, without doubt.

Will somebody enlighten us on this subject? We recently asked a gentleman who advertises himself "as a pupil of Prof. Mapes," and a "consulting agricultural chemist," if he had studied analytical chemistry in Prof. MAPES' laboratory, and were *not* surprised when he informed us that he knew nothing practically about analyzing soils and that Prof. Mapes had no laboratory; and yet Prof. M. professes to have made analyses of soils by the hundred, and claims the title of "Professor" and "L. L. D." We may add, as a farther reason why some light should be thrown upon this subject, that we have never met with a scientific man who placed any more confidence in Prof. Mapes' science than we do in his general statements. It is a matter of much practical importance to our farmers to know whether the pretensions of one who sets himself up as their instructor, are well-founded or not. If, as he asserts, he has really "made analyses of the soils of more than 100 farms, and advised modes of culture founded on such analyses, and in no instance without *increasing the profits of the farmer more than one-third*," he has done what *no other chemist* ever pretended to have accomplished, and the laurels now resting upon the brows of LIEBIG, JOHNSTON, NORTON and others, should be awarded to him. Will somebody enlighten us on the subject?

SEEDLING POTATOES.—Mr. BENJ. CHASE of Bemus Heights, Saratoga Co. has presented us some potatoes which he says were raised from the seed of the Western Red, by JAS. SHEPHERD of Saratoga. They are large, white with red eyes, white-fleshed, of good quality, and as hardy and more productive, according to Mr. Chase, than the Western Red.

NEW-YORK AND OHIO DURHAMS.—Mr. BATEHAM, editor of the *Ohio Cultivator*, whom we had the pleasure of meeting at our State Fair, in speaking of the cattle on exhibition says—"In comparing the most approved Durham cattle at New-York with those at the Ohio show, we notice that the former are generally of a finer make, and smaller in bone and size than the latter; which is no doubt owing to the difference in taste and circumstances of the stock breeders and farmers of the two States. We have nowhere beheld more finished specimens of Short Horns than are some of the recent importations of New-York; but we think that those of Ohio and Kentucky will generally excel them in size and earliness of maturity, which are the best requisites for western feeders and drovers." Mr B. speaks of the general arrangements and managemen of the exhibition at New-York, as the best he has ever seen in this country.

CONN. VALLEY FARMER.—This very valuable monthly, heretofore published at Springfield, and edited by Prof. NASH, has been transferred by its proprietors to Prof. N. who will hereafter edit and publish it at Amherst. The late proprietors say that they have published it at a very considerable pecuniary loss. We trust, however, that its present editor and proprietor will meet with a better reward, for the VALLEY FARMER richly merits a liberal patronage.

$3,500 FOR A BULL.—The bull "Syrius," which received the premium at the recent Bourbon County Ky., Agricultural Fair, has been bought by Mr. R. A ALEXANDER, of Woodford in that state at $3,500.

A WORD ABOUT FENCES.—One of the most crying evils existing among farmers, at least in some sections of the country, is poor fences, and especially partition fences, which are a fruitful source of hard feeling and contention between neighbors. It is quite a task for a portion of our farmers to support their fences, where fencing timber is scarce, and with small means. But there is often a lack of a fixed principle and a full determination of the parties, in coming up to their duty.

If they would seek to know and do their duty in this matter their slumbers would not be so often disturbed by their cattle and other stock. GEO. CARGILL.

SALE OF IMPORTED POULTRY.—The stock of poultry imported by Mr. GILES of Woodstock, Conn. and noticed recently in this paper, was sold at auction at Barnum's Musem, New-York, on Saturday last. The very rare birds sold at high prices, while on "the more common sort," says the Tribune, "there was a dead loss upon the cost in England, of about an average of 75 per cent." The pair of Mandarin Ducks, said to have cost 75 guineas (about $375) in England, sold for $150. Among the other sales were the following:

1 pair of white Swans,..	$100	1 pair of Call Ducks,....	$
1 white female Swan,...	50	1 Sheldrake Duck, ...	15
1 black female Swan,...	60	3 spoon-bill Ducks, ...	13
1 pair of black Swans...	99	1 pair of pin-tail Ducks,..	0
1 pr. Japanese Peacocks,	100	1 pair of Widgeon Ducks,	12
1 pair Barnacle Geese,..	40	1 pair of Widgeon Ducks,	7
3 hoop-bill Ducks,.....	75	3 Widgeon Ducks, ...	9
1 pair Golden Pheasants,	18		

4 pair of English Pheasants, at $10, $11, $15 pr. pair.
3 male Golden Pheasants, at $5, 8,50, $12,50 each.
3 male Silver Pheasants, at $10, $10,50, $16 each.

The sales of Shanghais, and birds in that line, went off at what the owner called "sickly prices." The following indicates the prevailing rates:

1 pair of Gray Dorkings, $10; 3 do., $15; 6 Seabright Bantams, in two lots, $5 each; 2 do., hens, $2 each; 3 Golden do., $1.87 each; 3 English Bantams, $1.25 each; 3 do., $2. 37 each; 4 Bramah Pootras, 1 cock and 3 hens, $2.50 each; 1 Poland hen, $1.25; 1 Bolton Gray hen, $1.25; 1 pair of Golden Hamburgs, $2 25; 1 pair of black Spanish fowls $10; 1 pair of do., $5.50; 2 Black Shanghai hens, $3.

TURKEYS—1 pair of beautiful white Turkeys, $5.

GEESE—2 pair of Barnacle Geese, $12 and $14; 2 pair of Egyptian Geese, $10 and $16.

STUMP MACHINE.—*J. H. C.* We doubt whether the machines alluded to (see Co. Gent. vol. 4, p. 215) are manufactured for sale. Can you not get one made from the description given?

PRIZE POULTRY.—Mr. GEO. ANDERSON, an extensive poultry raiser of this city, received, at the State Fair at New-York, the *first prizes* for the best White, Buff and Dominique Shanghais; and at the Albany Co. Fair, the same prizes for the best Black, White and Dominique Shanghais and White Dorkings.

DUTCHESS COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—At the late meeting of this Society the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President—EDGAR THORNE, Poughkeepsie.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

Henry Rundall, Amenia.	W. E. Hackstun, Beekman.
E. Gazely, Clinton.	Sam. L. Taber, Dover.
T. J. Van Wyck, E. Fishkill.	J. T. Brinkerhoff, Fishkill.
E. S. Barton, La Grange.	B. S. Thorne, Milan.
Orrin Wakeman, North East.	W. Velie, Pleasant Valley.
Isaac Akin, Pawling.	Col. S. Harris, Pine Plains.
Wm. R. Kelley, Rhinebeck.	Aaron Vail, Stanford.
Wm. Abel, Union Vale.	J. H. DeForrest, Washington.
Josiah Wheeler, Hyde Park.	C. DuBois, Po'keepsie.

Treasurer—Geo. W. Coffin, Amenia.
Cecretary—Geo. W. Paine, Washington.
Cor. Secretary—Geo. Wilkinson, Poughkeepsie.

GOOD COWS.—Mr. JAMES CHILDS, of Deerfield, Mass., informs us that he has recently sold the two heifers, "Abby Folsom" and "Victoria," an account of whose product was published in this paper last spring, to Mr. ALFRED M. TREADWELL of Madison, N. J. Mr. C. says—"They are fine animals, and will be a valuable addition to his stock. From their milk 437¼ lbs. butter was made in six months from the time they came in."

ANDRE LE ROY'S NURSERIES

AT ANGERS, FRANCE.

ANDRE LE ROY begs to inform his numerous friends that he is now prepared to execute all orders for TREES, EVERGREENS, SHRUBS, STOCKS, &c. entrusted to his care. His trees, &c. are very fine this year, and his collection very complete. Orders should be sent at once so as to secure the different kinds. The best care will be given to all orders as usual. The Angers Quince Stocks have not succeeded well this year and are scarce and high. Orders should, as usual, be addressed to our agent in New-York, Mr. EDOUARD BOSSANGE, who will give all the information desired, and mail in application free of charges, a detailed copy of my catalogue with prices in dollars and cents.

Nov. 9—w1t—m2t.

CHOICE POULTRY.

THE subscriber offers for sale this fall, a large stock of Poultry, comprising the most known and choice varieties of domestic and imported Fowls, Geese, Turkeys, Ducks, &c. The entire stock was bred by the subscriber from his own importations and selections, upon his own yard and under his own supervision. The public may have full confidence in their genuineness.

Fowls will be delivered in Albany or New-York free of charge.

The subscriber also has a few pure-bred SUFFOLK PIGS for sale. W. H. SOUTHWICK.

Nov. 9—w4tm1t New Baltimore, N. Y.

Ten New-Oxfordshire Sheep for Sale.

TWO oldish—three two years old—one one year old—one six months ewe—one yearling, and two six month's bucks. These sheep are fine specimens of the breed, and my only reason for disposing of them is, that I am about to change the entire stock of my farm. F. LYMAN.

Nov. 2—w1tm1t* Goshen, Litchfield Co., Conn.

EXCELSIOR HORSE POWER
and Threshing Machines.

THIS Portable Lever Four Horse Power is an improvement on Warren's Patent, (which we own,) and by an experience of more than three years, it proves to be the best and cheapest yet known. None have ever failed to give entire satisfaction in all respects. It is simple in construction, and easily understood by any operator. It may be used with one to four horses. We therefore offer it to the public as a most desirable machine for various purposes.

The Thresher is a superior Spike Machine suited for the Power. With these machines 200 bushels or more of dry Wheat are threshed in a day.

Weight of Power about 550 lbs.—Weight of Main Driving Wheel 300 lbs.—or altogether about 900 lbs. Weight of Thresher 200 lbs.

Price of Power and Pully Box, &c., $85.

Cost of Patent Riveted Stretch Leatheed Band, 3¼ inch wide, 40 feet long, $7.50.

Price of Threshers, No I and 2, $40 and $45.

Orders will be duly attended to.

☞ Terms cash on delivery in this city.

PLANT BROTHERS.
Gen'l Com. Merch'ts,
Oct. 26—w1tm2t. 75 Pine street, New York.

Thomas Gould,

BREEDER OF DEVON CATTLE, Suffolk Swine, Madagascar or Lop-Eared Rabbits, and choice and fancy Poultry, Aurora, Cayuga county, N. Y. Mar. 23—w& mtf

Devon Cows,

HEIFERS, and Bull Calves—pure blood—for sale by
Feb. 1—m1y. B. V. FRENCH, Braintree, Mass.

LIFE ILLUSTRATED. A new First-class Weekly Newspaper, devoted to News, Literature, Science, and the Arts; to ENTERTAINMENT, IMPROVEMENT, and PROGRESS. Designed to encourage a spirit of hope, manliness, self-reliance, and activity among the people; to point out the means of profitable economy; and to discuss and illustrate the leading ideas of the day; to record all signs of progress; and to advocate political and industrial rights for all classes.

It contains Essays—Historical, Biographical, and Descriptive. Sketches of Travel and Adventure, Poetry, Painting, Music, Sculpture, etc.; articles on Science, Agriculture, Horticulture, Education, The Markets, General News, and every topic which is of importance or interest, all combining to render it one of the BEST FAMILY NEWSPAPERS IN THE WORLD. Published Weekly, at TWO DOLLARS a year in advance. BY FOWLERS & WELLS.
308 Broadway N.Y.

THE WATER CURE JOURNAL AND HERALD OF REFORMS. Devoted to Hydropathy, its Philosophy and Practice; to Physiology and Anatomy, with illustrative engravings; to Dietetics, Exercise, Clothing, Occupations Amusements, and those Laws which govern Life and Health. Published in convenient form for binding, at One Dollar a Year.

The Water-Cure Journal holds a high rank in the science of health; always ready, straight forward, and plain-spoken, it unfolds the laws of our physical nature, without any pretensions to the technicalities of science, but in a form as attractive and refreshing as the sparkling element of which it treats. We know of no American periodical which presents a greater abundance of valuable information on all subjects relating to human progress and welfare.—[*New York Tribune.*

This is, unquestionably, the most popular Health Journal n the world.—[*N. Y. Evening Post.*

THE AMERICAN PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL. A Repository of Science, Literature, and General Intelligence; devoted to Phrenology, Education, Mechanism, Architecture, and to all those Progressive Measures which are calculated to Reform, Elevate, and Improve Mankind. Illustrated with numerous portraits and other engravings. A beautiful Quarto, suitable for binding. At One Dollar a Year.

A Journal containing such a mass of interesting matter, devoted to the highest happiness and interests of man, written in the clear and lively style of its practiced editors, and afforded at the "ridiculously low price" of one dollar a year, must succeed in running up its present large circulation to a much higher figure.—*New-York Tribune.*

SUBSCRIPTIONS should be addressed to the PUBLISHERS,
FOWLERS AND WELLS,
Nov. 2—w2tm1t 308 Broadway, New-York.

BLACK SPANISH FOWLS.

I AM now able to furnish a few pairs of the Black Spanish, bred from my importation of last spring, from the prize birds of Thos. H. Fox, Esq., of London. For the reputation of his stock, it is only necessary to say that he took the first prizes at the great Metropolitan Show at London last January, as well as fifteen other first prizes in different exhibitions of poultry in Great Britain during the last year.

The Speckled Dorkings.

I not only succeeded in selecting the best Black Spanish but all other popular breeds of fowls in Europe, of which the Dorkings stand at the head.

Of W. Fisher Hobbs of Boxted Lodge, I purchased a pair of his Prize Dorkings, which are very large and beautiful. For the reputation of his stock it is only necessary to say, that Mr. Hobbs took the two first prizes for best Dorkings at the great Metropolitan Show. In the purchase of these and other birds, I availed myself of the advice of Joseph Bailey, Esq., of London, whose opinion is considered equal, if not superior, to any poulterer in Europe. Queen Victoria purchased a pair from each brood of the above breeds of mine, at the same exhibition. For the Spanish Cock I paid $75, and the pair of Dorkings $130 I paid the Queen 27 guineas for nine birds; among the lot were two beautiful Dorkings.
SOL. W. JEWETT.
Nov. 2—w1tm1t* Middlebury, Vt

POULTRY FOR SALE.

THE subscriber who has had several years careful experience in breeding fowls, has a few choice pairs to sell, at reasonable prices, of the following varieties, viz: Grey, Black, Buff and White, Shanghai—Silver and Golden Poland, Black Spanish, Bolton Grey, or Silver Hamburg, Santa Anna Hen Feather Game, Java and African Bantams, and Superior African Geese. Also choice Black and Tan Terrier Dogs. E. E. PLATT.
Nov. 9, 1854—w&mtf. Albany.

Choice Poultry for Sale.

BRAHMA Pootra or Chittagongs—Royal Cochin Chinas—White, Black, Buff and Brown Shanghaes—Black Spanish and Gold and Silver Polands, all warranted pure blood, and of the best importations in the country, or from specimens which took the first and second premiums at many of the recent exhibitions.

Fowls to be sent a distance, will be carefully cooped in good health and good condition. All orders post-paid.
Reference, C. W. GODARD, Esq., B. B. KIRTLAND, Esq., Albany.
GEORGE ANDERSON,
56 Schuyler st. Albany, N. Y.
Sept. 1—w&m3m.

Albany Agricultural Works,

Warehouse and Seed Store, 369 and 371 Broadway, Albany.

THE subscriber having purchased the stock in trade of the above works, is now prepared to furnish to order a full assortment of Farm Implements and Machines adapted to all sections of the country, both north and south, among which may be found—

"*Emery's Patent Changeable Railroad Horse Powers.*"
Overshot Threshing Machines with Separators.
Mowing and Reaping Machines.
Grist-mills, Corn-shellers and Clover-hullers.
Circular and Cross-cut Saw-mills, adapted to the horse power, for cutting fire wood and fence stuff, with a full and complete assortment of FIELD AND GARDEN SEEDS and FERTILIZERS. For further particulars, full Catalogue will be sent on application by mail.
RICH'D H. PEASE,
March 30—w&mtf Successor to Emery & Co

Fertilizers.

BEST Peruvian Guano—
Super-Phosphate of Lime, "DeBurg's No. 1"—
Poudrette, of the best quality—
Ground Plaster, suitable for agricultural purposes—
Ground Bone, Bone Dust, and Burnt Bone.
Also, Grass Seeds of reliable quality, at the lowest market price. GEO. DAVENPORT, 5 Commercial,
Feb. 9, 1854—w&mtf cor. of Chatham st., Boston.

GUANO NOTICE.

AS there is a substance now selling by some dealers in this city and Brooklyn, for the No. 1 Peruvian Guano, we caution the agricultural public who may purchase Peruvian Guano this season, to observe that every bag of the genuine article will have the following brand:

NO. 1,
PERUVIAN GUANO,
IMPORTED BY
F. BARREDA BROTHERS.

The price is now established for this season, at $50 per tun of 2,000 lbs. When taken in lots of five tuns and upwards, a discount will be made. LONGETT & GRIFFING,
State Agricultural Warehouse, No. 25, Cliff-Street
Aug. 17—w6tm2t New-York.

Super-Phosphate of Lime.

THIS celebrated fertilizer, where it has been fairly tested the last year, has been found equal, and in many cases superior to the best Peruvian guano, in its immediate effect, and much more permanently beneficial to the land. It is adapted to any soil in which there is a deficiency of *phosphate*, which is often the case. All crops are benefited by its application. It is composed of ground bones, decomposed by sulphuric acid, to which is added a due proportion of Peruvian guano, sulphate of ammonia, &c.

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